

# Expression of Interest (EOI) for new members to join the Gold Coast Hospital and Health Service Human Research Ethics Committee – No Experience Necessary

## Voluntary Position – Human Research Ethics Committee Members

### About the Human Research Ethics Committee:

The Gold Coast Hospital and Health Service (GCHHS) Human Research Ethics Committee (HREC) was established by Gold Coast Health and is constituted and operates in accordance with the National Health and Medical Research Council's (NHMRC) *National Statement on Ethical Conduct in Human Research 2023* (National Statement), NHMRC and Universities Australia *Australian Code for the Responsible Conduct of Research (2018)*, and the *Integrated Addendum to ICH E6(R1): Guideline for Good Clinical Practice E6(R2)*.

The committee meets 11 times per year for a few hours and is held in a hybrid manner (in-person and via an online meeting platform). The HREC Coordinator is available for assistance and to provide support to all members.

The GCHHS HREC is a nationally certified committee.

The objectives of the HREC are to:

- Ensure human research submitted for review is designed with respect for the participants and is not compromised by the aims of the research, by the way it is carried out, or by the results;
- Advise Gold Coast Health and research applicants on ethical issues relating to human research;
- Evaluate and approve suitable human research proposals in line with NHMRC guidelines and Queensland Health policies; and
- Monitor and review approved human research proposals.

The [HREC Essentials Training Course](#), from Praxis Australia, is provided free of charge to all new HREC members as part of their induction and training.

### About the role:

The GCHHS HREC is seeking expressions of interest for members in any of the following NHMRC categories, with or without prior experience:

- **Category A:** a chairperson and/or deputy chairperson, with suitable experience, whose other responsibilities will not impair the HREC's capacity to carry out its obligations under the National statement;
- **Category B:** people who bring a broader community perspective and who have no paid affiliation with the institution;
- **Category C:** people with knowledge of, and current experience in, the professional care or treatment of people; for example, medical, nursing or allied health professionals;
- **Category D:** people who perform a pastoral care role in a community, for example, an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Elder or community leader, a chaplain, minister of religion or other religious leader;

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- **Category E:** a qualified lawyer, who may or may not be currently practicing and, where possible, is not engaged to advise the institution on research-related or any other matters; and
  - **Category F:** people with current research experience relevant to public health.

The HREC acts in a consultative and advisory capacity with researchers to ensure that all research is conducted in an ethically and scientifically robust manner.

Each member of the HREC is responsible for deciding whether, in his or her judgement, a proposal submitted for review meets the requirements of the National Statement and is ethically acceptable. Ongoing training is provided for members.

### Submitting an EOI:

#### Please include the following in your EOI letter:

- Name and contact details;
- Current occupation;
- Any affiliation/s with health, medical, legal, scientific, academic institutions;
- Any previous ethics experience in human research or other domains;
- Any additional information to support your application; and
- Indication of the category of membership you are interested in.

#### Please also supply:

- A copy of your current CV.

#### Please send all applications to:

Email: [GCHEthics@health.qld.gov.au](mailto:GCHEthics@health.qld.gov.au)

Subject heading: HREC EOI – member

#### Please direct all enquiries to:

Caitlin Swalwell

Acting HREC Coordinator

Email: [GCHEthics@health.qld.gov.au](mailto:GCHEthics@health.qld.gov.au)

Ph: 07 5687 3879