



## Recruitment & Consent

### Research involving Aboriginal Peoples

If you are recruiting Aboriginal People, you are to be informed by and abide by the National Statement, the NHMRC 'Ethical conduct in research with Aboriginal people and communities: Guidelines for researchers and stakeholders and the NHMRC 'Keeping Research on Track II'.

In addition to Lead HREC approval, approval from the Western Australia Aboriginal Health Ethics Committee (WAAHEC) is required in WA when:

- The research is related to health and well-being; and
- The expenditure of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people is an explicit focus of all or part of the research; or
- Data collection is explicitly directed at Aboriginal people; or
- Research outcomes explicitly related to Aboriginal people; or
- It is proposed to conduct sub-group analyses and separately analyse Aboriginal people in the results; or
- The information, potential over-representation in the dataset, or geographical location has an impact on one or more Aboriginal communities; or
- Government Aboriginal health funds are a source of funding.

WAAHEC approval must be uploaded as a supporting document to site application.

### Informed consent

Informed consent must be obtained from research participants, or their legal guardian/decision maker as appropriate, for their participation in research including the use of their data or biospecimens. Under certain circumstances, alternatives to informed consent (e.g. a waiver of consent) may be justified if all ethical, policy and legislative requirements are met.

Site specific consent forms must be based on the latest master version approved by lead HREC and have appropriate branding. Information sheets must fully inform participants of how their data is handled, where its stored, for how long and who will have access to their data. Further the source of funding for the project must be disclosed to the participants.

### Waiver of consent

A HREC may grant a waiver of consent for research if, along with other conditions, it is impracticable to obtain consent (for example, due to the quantity, age or accessibility of records). Regulation 3(2) of the Information Regulations states, among other things, that consent must be obtained for the disclosure of personal information for research purposes, unless it is impracticable to obtain the consent of the individual to whom the information relates.



It should be noted that the threshold for being “impracticable” to obtain consent is relatively high. Notably, the term “impracticable” is not synonymous with “difficult” or “undesirable”. It means that something more than expenditure of reasonable resources or effort must be demonstrated. **Research projects involving waivers of consent must record the waiver of consent as a special condition of approval on the HREC approval letter.**

## Parent Information Consent Form (PICF) Requirements

### 1. Complaints info included as per below:

If you have any complaints about any aspect of the project, the way it is being conducted or any questions about being a research participant in general, then you may contact:

#### Reviewing HREC approving this research: (CAHS or relevant HREC's details)

Reviewing HREC name	Child & Adolescent Health Service (CAHS)
Position	HREC Chair
Telephone	(08) 6456 8639
Email	<a href="mailto:CAHS.ethics@health.wa.gov.au">CAHS.ethics@health.wa.gov.au</a>

#### Site contact:

Name	CAHS Research Ethics & Governance Office
Position	Manager
Telephone	(08) 6456 8639
Email	<a href="mailto:CAHS.RGO@health.wa.gov.au">CAHS.RGO@health.wa.gov.au</a>

### 2. Logo / branding

Site Specific information and consent forms require a CAHS or PCH logo (or both).  
Templates available via [Branding and logos \(health.wa.gov.au\)](http://health.wa.gov.au)



### 3. Local / site contact

Study team contact details of the local site team are to be provided on site specific PICF.

### 4. Data

PICF's need to explicitly state how data will be managed, stored, retained/ destroyed as well as if any data will be shared with third parties – refer to Data Management for further information.



## **5. Funder**

If the project has funding, this needs to be disclosed to potential participants in the PICF.

## **6. Students**

If a student is involved in the research project, include a statement in the PICF's as follows (or similar). 'One of the research Investigators involved in this study is conducting this project as part of their work towards a post graduate degree.'

Note: Ensure a student declaration of confidentiality has been completed and uploaded to RGS.

## **7. Co-sign space for consents for parent/ guardian**

## **8. Version number and date – tracked from latest master.**