

Welcome

In this edition of Streamline, we are pleased to announce the establishment of the Reviewing HREC and Research Governance Standards Subcommittee by the Consultative Council for Human Research Ethics.

The role of the Subcommittee is to develop standard operating procedures for reviewing HREC administration and research governance to enable timely and efficient processing for clinical trials.

The newly formed Subcommittee has already been active in drafting standards and procedures to improve HREC coordination and research governance.

Accreditation of reviewing HRECs is currently being finalised by the Consultative Council and will be announced very soon.

In case you missed it in the last edition, the Australian Research Ethics Database (AU RED) and Online Forms website are 'live'. While single ethics review of multi-site clinical trials will not commence until later this year, now is the time to get familiar and confident filling out the Online Forms.

Kind regards,

Suzanne Hasthorpe
Manager, Coordinating Office for Human Research Ethics

▶ Reviewing HREC and Research Governance Standards Subcommittee

Appointed by the Consultative Council for Research Ethics, the members of the Subcommittee are:

- Angela Watt (Chair)
- Malar Thiagarajan
- Anne Spence
- Bernice Davies
- Kym Short
- Suzanne Hasthorpe
- Campbell Simpson

▶ AU RED Training

In house AU RED training is currently available for participating organisations and HREC Coordinators/Administration Officers. Contact Campbell Simpson at the Coordinating Office on 03 9092 1987 or email at campbell.simpson@dhs.vic.gov.au and make a booking for a one day training session.

▶ Start date for single ethical review of multi-site clinical trials

The start date is planned for the fourth quarter of 2009 - watch this space! As soon as the start date is announced, all multi-site clinical trial HREC applications will need to be allocated to a reviewing HREC using the Central Allocation System. This can be done by phoning Gavin Murnane in the Coordinating Office on 03 9092 1983.

To use the new system, researchers and sponsors must ensure that research sites and participating sites and have signed an MOU with the Consultative Council. This information can be obtained from the Coordinating Office on 03 9092 1981 or by email at Multisite.Ethics@dhs.vic.gov.au or by contacting organisations directly.

▶ Further queries

For more information on the streamlined system for ethical review of multi-site clinical trials, **contact** the Coordinating Office for Human Research Ethics on Ph: 03 9092 1981, **email** multisite.ethics@dhs.vic.gov.au or **visit** www.health.vic.gov.au/ethics (click on Multi-site research).

To subscribe or unsubscribe to the *Streamline* E-bulletin, email multisite.ethics@dhs.vic.gov.au and include '**Subscribe/Unsubscribe to Streamline E-bulletin**' in the subject line.

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