

From the Research Quality Management Office

Research Quality Management is an onsite program that provides collaborative support through a variety of educational offerings and oversight verification of research processes to the university and affiliated research sites. Provided in good faith to the university research community, the Research Quality Management Office seeks to facilitate continuing best practices in the safe and ethical conduct of research with humans at the university.

Latest News

NCEHR site visit update

The National Council on Ethics in Human Research (NCEHR) completed an institutional site visit from March 22 – 25, 2010. Several changes were implemented in response to findings from this valuable process of review. These include the following: the development of an operational committee (the Human Ethics Resource Committee (HERC)) which is to be a resource to both researchers and the research ethics committees. Reporting to the AVP (Research and International), HERC has updated research website resources, has worked to clarify REB procedures, and has updated REB submission guidelines and consent form templates. HERC meets monthly and reports annually to the Senate Committee on University Research (SCUR). The NCEHR visit also provided the impetus to review policy, resulting in the revision of University Policy *The Ethics of Research with Humans*, which recently was submitted to Senate for review and approval. Review and revision of REB SOPs is also underway. As of September 1st 2011, the CORE tutorial has been mandated by HERC as a requirement for researchers seeking review and approval of new research. Finally, the Office of Research Services is implementing the use of a new database system (InfoEd) that is to assist the REBs with on-line data management and communication.

Update on CORE

As of this week, 1,075 people within the University of Manitoba research community have completed the online Course on Research Ethics (TCPS2/CORE) tutorial. Another 300+ have opened CORE accounts and will be working through the modules, as time permits, to complete this training. All researchers submitting new research projects for REB review and approval must now also send documentation of completion of TCPS2/CORE tutorial training. Although it is the Principal Investigators' completion of CORE that is currently tracked by the REBs, it is suggested by HERC that all research team members who have direct contact with research participants complete the training.

Ethical Considerations of Research Educational Event. October 12, 2011

This was a collaborative event organized by the Research Quality Management office of the University of Manitoba, the St. Boniface Research Hospital Research Centre, the U of M Bannatyne Campus Research Ethics Board office, and the Manitoba Institute of Child Health. Our presenters included Leona Star from the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs. Drs. Linda Larcombe, Shayne Taback, and Tamra Werbowetski-Ogilvie, from the University of Manitoba. We explored the Principles of OCAP and the informed consent process specific to research with First Nations peoples, pediatric clinical trial ethical considerations, and stem cell research and stem cell tourism. We have included the links of these presentations for your review:

http://umanitoba.ca/research/orec/media/Enigok2010-11_OCT_12th_St._Boniface2_I.pdf

[http://umanitoba.ca/research/orec/media/Risks in Pediatrics and Obstetrics Research Oct 12_I.pdf](http://umanitoba.ca/research/orec/media/Risks_in_Pediatrics_and_Obstetrics_Research_Oct_12_I.pdf)

http://umanitoba.ca/research/orec/media/Stem_Cell_Ethics_Talk_Oct_12_I.pdf

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<http://umanitoba.ca/research/orec/qa/index.html>

Human Ethics Resource Committee (HERC) Updates

HERC membership includes the 5 REB Chairs, the Research Quality Management (RQM) team, and the Associate V-P (Research). HERC has been meeting regularly over the past year to facilitate and improve communication between REBs and members of the Research Community. The following projects are under development by HERC:

- **Guidelines for the use of video and photographs in research**
These guidelines should aid the Research Community with the information they need to make an informed judgment on the ethical issues involved in the use of video and photographs in research. A sample consent template will be included.
- **Guidelines for radiation exposure in research**
These guidelines will help researchers to justify, optimize and carry out procedures in research using radiation ensuring that radiation doses to the participants are as low as reasonably practicable and consistent with the intended purpose.
- **Decision Bank**
This will be an explicit mechanism for archiving cumulative, issue based research ethics decisions to inform future decision-making. This tool will systematically capture HERC decisions, which can serve as a systematized log of precedents to promote internal decision-making consistency.
- **Website Review**
The RQM team is reviewing our Website to ensure that the latest information is posted and that all the links are actualized.

Please feel free to contact us:

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Upcoming Events

Manitoba First Nations Research Conference. February 7-8th, 2012

Sharing the findings of "Enigok", Indigenous Peoples Self Determination in Health Research, Ethics and Ethics Review. Check the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs website at www.manitobachiefs.com for Enigok information, conference registration and updates.

Celebration of Indigenous Research

A research celebratory workshop will be held this March 2012 to celebrate Indigenous Research and the partnerships that make the conduct of research possible. Please watch for more information about this event in future.

Special thanks to the academic staff, administrative staff and other professionals from inside and outside of the University of Manitoba for all the support in developing the RQM program!



Sincere wishes for a happy, healthy holiday season!