

Māori Consultation at Waikato DHB

Te Puna Oranga Māori Consultation Research Review Committee

The Committee is appointed by the Kaumātua Kaunihera, Te Puna Oranga (Māori Health Service) under the guidelines of Human Ethics in Health Research. The functions of the committee are to receive and review research proposals, referred to it for consideration. The Committee may offer appropriate advice to the researcher(s) involved as well as making written recommendations to the researcher(s). The Committee will provide notification for organisational approval as required. A member of the committee (manager) will be nominated to communicate directly with the researcher should any clarification be required.

The committee considers the following issues to be important:

- the values and tikanga inherent in whānau, hapū and iwi
- the need for a process that is culturally safe and supportive
- the need to protect whakapapa
- the need to protect individual and informed choice

It is important that the Treaty of Waitangi principles be encompassed within the guidelines. The committee emphasises the importance of the following:

- The protection of Whakapapa Māori, confidentiality and privacy.
- Respect for Tikanga Māori and Kaumatua counselling, whānau assistance at the initial interview.
- The Treaty of Waitangi principles i.e. Partnership, Participation, Protection and Wairua.
- The interpretation and application of the Treaty principles to ethical review may be needed.
- Using the Health Research Council's guidelines on Health Research Involving Māori to assist researchers undertaking biomedical, public health or clinical research involving Maori participants or research on issues relevant to Maori health
- Using Te Ara Tika to guide your thinking about Māori responsiveness while developing your proposal. This framework was developed by Pūtaiora (Māori members of ethics committees) and the National Ethics Advisory Committee (NEAC).
- All information provided by Māori is safeguarded and protected within the Health system or as directed by whānau.
- Members of the Committee treat information submitted in the proposals in confidence and any conflicts of interest is declared and may be required by the researcher(s) or the Committee to remove themselves from the matter at hand.
- All Waikato DHB research studies (excluding clinical audits) must undertake a consultation process with the Te Puna Oranga (Māori Health Service) MRRC. For information and assistance with this process please contact:

Physical Address: Te Puna Oranga (Māori Health Service), Level 1, Hockin Building, Waikato Hospital	Mailing Address: Te Puna Oranga Māori Consultation Research Review Committee, Te Puna Oranga (Māori Health Service), Waikato District Health Board, PO Box 934, Hamilton 3240
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Any queries with regards to this process, please contact Millie Berryman (07) 8343628 or millie.berryman@waikatodhb.health.nz