

POLICY 7.14 – Policy and Procedures for Ethical Review of Research Involving Human Participants

Policy Category: Research

Effective Date: June 30, 2009

Supersedes: (NEW)

POLICY

- 1.00 This policy applies to all instances of research involving human participants performed at The University of Western Ontario, and to University faculty, staff or students carrying out research involving human participants as principal or responsible investigators at another institution or site.
- 2.00 All research involving human participants must adhere to the policies and procedures of The University of Western Ontario, the Tri-Council Policy Statement: Ethical Conduct of Research Involving Humans, and other relevant guidelines and legislation.
- 3.00 The University Council on Research Ethics Involving Human Participants (UCRE) advises the University Research Board (URB) on matters of policy pertaining to the ethics review of research involving human participants. The Health Sciences Research Ethics Board (HSREB) and the Non-Medical Research Ethics Board (NMREB) are responsible to UCRE for ensuring the appropriate oversight of research involving human participants in compliance with the Tri-Council Policy Statement: Ethical Conduct of Research Involving Humans and other relevant guidelines and legislation.
- 4.00 All applications for approval to conduct research involving human participants will be reviewed by a Research Ethics Board (REB) located at Western or sanctioned by Western, which has the authority to approve or reject an application, require the alteration of an application, or stop or limit research that is already underway.
- 5.00 Studies may not commence until the ethics application is approved by the REB and signed by the appropriate REB official.
- 6.00 Failure to comply with the University's policies and procedures may prevent approval of pending ethics applications and/or may result in approval of current studies being revoked by the REB. As warranted by the severity of circumstances, the REB may also send notification of such failure to comply to the researcher's Dean, Chair or Director, Institute Heads, and appropriate funding and licensing agencies.

PROCEDURES

All guidelines, forms and instructions are accessible on the Office of Research Ethics website at <http://www.uwo.ca/research/ethics>