



ROYAL ADELAIDE HOSPITAL RESEARCH ETHICS COMMITTEE

Expedited Approvals

Certain classes of research protocol raise no new ethical questions requiring deliberation, but rather require checking with respect to consent and other ethical considerations. In recognition of this, the Research Ethics Committee has agreed that in general, the following categories of research may be approved by the Chairman of the Research Ethics Committee and reported to the following meeting of the full Committee.

1. Collection of hair and nail clippings in a non-disfiguring manner, of deciduous teeth and of permanent teeth if patient care indicates a need for permanent extraction.
2. Collection of excreta and external secretions including, sweat and uncannulated saliva, placenta at delivery and of amniotic fluid at the time of rupture of the membrane before or during labour.
3. Recording of data from subjects who are eighteen years of age or older, using non-invasive procedures routinely employed in clinical practice. This category includes the use of physical sensors that are applied either to the surface of the body or at a distance and do not involve input of matter or significant amounts of energy into a subject, or invasion of a subject's privacy. It also includes such procedures as weighing, electrocardiography, thermography, detection of naturally occurring radioactivity, diagnostic echography, and electroretinography.
4. Studies which involve exposure to ionising radiation of up to 1mSv in dose. Studies in this category must be accompanied by a radiation safety report. Where younger subjects are involved, due consideration to the risk-benefit of exposure to ionising radiation should be given.
5. Collection of blood samples by venipuncture, in amounts not exceeding 450 millilitres in an eight week period and no more often than two times per week, from subjects who are 18 years of age or older and who are in good health and are not pregnant.
6. Collection of both supra and subgingival dental plaque and calculus, provided the procedure is not more invasive than routine prophylactic scaling of the teeth, and the process is accomplished in accordance with accepted prophylactic techniques.
7. Voice recordings made for research purposes, such as investigations of speech defects.
8. Moderate exercise by healthy volunteers.
9. The study of existing data, documents, records, pathological specimens, or diagnostic specimens.
10. Research on drugs or devices for which an investigational new drug exemption or an investigational device exemption is not required.
11. Research by questionnaire.
12. Modifications to previously approved protocols.