

HREC Standard Operating Procedure

5.11 Minimising Duplication of Ethical Review

Statement of Intent and Outcomes

The St Vincent's Hospital Melbourne (SVHM) Human Research Ethics Committee (HREC) is committed to fulfilling Section 5.5 of the National Statement on Ethical Conduct in Human Research (2023) by reducing the duplication of ethical review where possible.

Procedures

The National Mutual Acceptance for multisite clinical trials is a dual initiative of the Victorian, New South Wales, Queensland, Western Australia, Tasmania and South Australian Governments. This allows clinical trials to be reviewed by one HREC with the decision mutually accepted by other certified centres. This ensures that ethical review is sought once only and that each participating site need only obtain governance authorisation prior to the commencement of the study. The full procedure for the approval of multisite is detailed in procedure 5.23.

SVHM is committed to this multisite approval process, and is certified to both review and accept the approval of other centres for multicentre trials. At all times, participating sites must adhere to the National Standard Operating Procedures for Clinical Trials, including Teletrials in Australia (2020).

All applications reviewed via the multisite process must be subject to a governance review to ensure institutional appropriateness.

All documents must incorporate site specific information (as required) and all legal documents must be appropriately authorised by the Director of Research or Deputy Director of Research on behalf of the Institution.

Open communication will also occur with other local institutions to ensure duplication is minimised where possible. This includes mutual acceptance and sharing of information.

Associated Procedures/Instructions

Procedure 5.23 – Multisite Ethical Approval

Reference Documents

- The National Statement on Ethical Conduct in Human Research (2023)
- Australian Code for the Responsible Conduct of Research (2018)



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- National Standard Operating Procedures for Clinical Trials, including Teletrials in Australia (2020)

Authorised by: Dr Megan Robertson, Director of Research

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Megan Robertson'.

Megan ROBERTSON (Jul 1, 2024 09:52 GMT+10)

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Final Audit Report

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