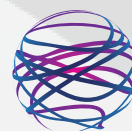




Curtin University

SiREN TOOLKIT: APPLYING FOR HUMAN RESEARCH ETHICS APPROVAL

siren.org.au



SiREN
WA Sexual Health and Blood-borne Virus
Applied Research and Evaluation Network

CONTENTS

About this toolkit.....	2	7.0 What else must I consider?	17
About this toolkit	2	Over-researched groups	18
Who developed this toolkit and why?.....	2	Consent of children	18
How do I use this toolkit?	2	Working with children.....	18
I'm stuck! Where can I get more information?	2	Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander participants ...	18
1.0 Principles of ethical research conduct	3	Is your research publishable?	19
2.0 When do I need ethics approval?	5	I've received ethics approval. Now what?	19
What types of research do not always require ethics approval?	6	Communicating your research findings with the wider community	19
What are quality assurance activities?	7	8.0 Western Australian Human Research Ethics Committees.....	20
3.0 What are the benefits of obtaining ethics approval?	8	References	23
Safety and respect of participants and researchers	9		
Legitimacy	9		
Applying for research project funding	9		
Submitting research findings for publication	9		
4.0 Can I undertake human research without ethics approval?.....	10		
5.0 What is a Human Research Ethics Committee?	12		
6.0 How do I apply for ethics approval?	14		
Components of a typical ethics application	15		
The ethics approval application process	16		
How are ethics applications reviewed?	16		

ABOUT THIS TOOLKIT

This toolkit provides an introduction to the human research ethics approval process for those who have not submitted an ethics application before or are unsure if they require ethics approval. Before deciding whether or not to submit an application for ethics approval it is important to understand why research projects require ethical oversight and approval, how to prepare and where to submit an ethics application, the ongoing requirements after receiving ethics approval, and where you can go for further assistance. This toolkit contains information and quick links to assist you in planning, writing and submitting an ethics application. The toolkit refers you to a series of templates and examples which can be found on the [SiREN website](#) where this toolkit was downloaded. We hope these will assist you in developing your own ethics application.

Who developed this toolkit and why?

SiREN – the Western Australian Sexual Health and Blood-borne Virus Applied Research and Evaluation Network developed this toolkit. The overall aim of SiREN is to strengthen existing, and create new partnerships by promoting and facilitating Western Australian applied research and evaluation relating to the prevention and control of sexually transmissible infections and blood-borne viruses. SiREN is coordinated by the Collaboration for Evidence, Research and Impact in Public Health (CERIPH) at Curtin University and funded by the Western Australian Department of Health, Sexual Health and Blood-borne Virus Program.

This toolkit was developed in response to SiREN receiving an increased number of enquiries in relation to the ethics approval process and how to apply for ethics approval.

How do I use this toolkit?

The complete *SiREN Toolkit: Applying for Human Research Ethics Approval* and the separate toolkit sections are available for download from the SiREN website www.siren.org.au. Work through each section of this toolkit systematically and use the information, links, templates and examples to create your own ethics application.

I'm stuck! Where can I get more information?

SiREN provides one-to-one mentoring and support for policy makers, practitioners and researchers involved in the prevention and management of sexually transmissible infections and blood-borne viruses. Support available from SiREN includes understanding the health issue and scope of the intended program, assistance with the ethics approval process and grant applications, identifying funding opportunities, providing feedback on the development of conference abstracts and presentations, skills-building workshops, and facilitating linkages between researchers, policy makers and practitioners.

For further information about SiREN and the support available please visit the SiREN website www.siren.org.au or email siren@curtin.edu.au.

© Curtin University 2018

ISBN 978-0-9924830-4-3

Suggested citation: Collaboration for Evidence, Research and Impact in Public Health. (2018). *SiREN Toolkit: Applying for Human Research Ethics Approval*. Perth, WA: Curtin University.