

Far North Queensland HREC (EC00157)

Research involving Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander persons

If your research project is **focused** towards Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander persons or plans to compare Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander persons with other Australians, the project is considered high risk. It is important to indicate if your project involves Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander persons in **Question 1.19** of the HREA form to enable the document to populate correctly.

The six core values listed in *Chapter 4.7 of the National Statement on the Ethical Conduct of Human Research 2007 (Updated 2018)* need to be addressed in your own words in **Question P8.1** of the HREA.

Below is the link to information regarding the National Statement on the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) website:

- <https://www.nhmrc.gov.au/guidelines-publications/e72>
The National Statement can be downloaded via the link at the bottom of the page.
- NB: The National Statement is currently undergoing review and Chapter 4.7 does not reflect some changes that have been made to the 2018 revised NHMRC documents, Ethical conduct in research with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and communities: Guidelines for Researchers and Stakeholders and [Keeping research on track II: A companion document to Ethical conduct in research with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples and communities; Guidelines for Researchers and Stakeholders](#).

The six core values identified as being important to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people as listed in the National Statement are:

Reciprocity is the concept of exchange for mutual benefit.

Respect is about the due regard for the feelings, wishes and rights of others. It is about how Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People feel about the study.

Equality (Equity in the revised Guidelines) is the concept of being of equal status in rights and opportunities. This important concept is about recognizing that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are not regarded or treated as second-class citizens. This is not about equality of the data. It is about the way the people are treated and regarded.

Responsibility is the concept of control, i.e. the acknowledgement that the researchers have a duty to the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in the study to responsibly conduct the study.

Survival and protection (Cultural Continuity in the revised Guidelines) is the concept of ensuring the continuation of culture and values that are important to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

Spirit and Integrity is about maintaining intangible qualities and values ensuring that these values remain whole and undivided.

National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) *These two documents are essential reading for Researchers working in the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health research context.*

- [Ethical conduct in research with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples and communities; Guidelines for Researchers and Stakeholders \(2018\)](#).



- [Keeping research on track II: A companion document to Ethical conduct in research with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples and communities; Guidelines for Researchers and Stakeholders \(2018\).](#)

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Other Guidelines:

Queensland Institute of Medical Research (QIMR), Berghofer

- Genomic Partnerships: Guidelines for genomic research with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples of Queensland, 2019.

Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies (AIATSIS)

- Guidelines for Ethical Research in Australian Indigenous Studies (GERAIS) (2012)

Below is a link to the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health page for the Cairns and Hinterland Hospital and Health Service.

- http://qheps.health.qld.gov.au/cairns/html/atsi_hmu_home.htm

Below are links for the Torres and Cape Hospital and Health Service.

- <https://qheps.health.qld.gov.au/torres-cape/html/cultural-practice>
- <https://qheps.health.qld.gov.au/torres-cape/html/traditional-owners>
- <https://www.health.qld.gov.au/torres-cape>

Please note: Evidence of Engagement / Consultation with relevant Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander bodies and communities must be provided with your application.

If a letter of support is provided it should indicate that the participant groups or community/ies understand the aim of the research, the methodology, research impact and translation; intellectual property management if relevant and that they have participated in the co-design of the project. Letters of Support are not always indicative that adequate community consultation has occurred.