

VALUES AND ETHICS STATEMENT

NHMRC NATIONAL STATEMENT ON ETHICAL CONDUCT IN RESEARCH INVOLVING HUMANS (1999)

NHMRC VALUES AND ETHICS: GUIDELINES FOR ETHICAL CONDUCT IN ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER HEALTH RESEARCH (2003)

<http://www.health.gov.au/nhmrc/publications/humans/contents.htm>

RECIPROCITY

- *How the proposed research demonstrates intent to contribute to the advancement of the health and wellbeing of participants and communities.*
- *Whether the proposal links clearly to community, regional, jurisdictional or international Indigenous health priorities and/or responds to existing or emerging needs articulated by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples.*
- *The nature of benefits for participants or other Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities, and whether there is evidence of clear and truthful discussions about the potential benefit of the research proposal prior to approval.*
- *Whether the researcher has demonstrated willingness to modify research in accordance with participating community values and aspirations.*
- *Whether the proposed research will enhance the capacity of communities to draw benefit beyond the project, eg through the development of skills and knowledge or through broader social, economic or political strategies at local, jurisdictional, national or even international level.*

RESPECT

- *Whether the proposal responds to the diversity of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples and communities, including the way decisions are made.*
- *How the proposal acknowledges the individual and collective contribution of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples.*
- *How the researchers propose to minimise the effects of difference blindness on and in the research process.*
- *How the research proposal engages with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples' knowledge and experience.*
- *Whether appropriate agreements have been negotiated about ownership and rights of access to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples' intellectual and cultural property.*
- *Whether the processes of reaching agreement demonstrate engagement with the values and processes of participating communities.*

- *Whether the participating communities have expressed satisfaction with the research agreement and decision making processes.*
- *Whether in reaching agreement with participating communities all relevant issues including management of data, publication arrangements and the protection of individual and community identity have been adequately addressed.*

EQUALITY

- *Whether the ways that participating communities are included in the research processes demonstrate equality.*
- *Whether the research agreements have the strength necessary to sustain equality.*
- *Whether participating communities have understood and expressed satisfaction with the proposed research, its potential benefits and their distribution. Researchers therefore have a responsibility to ensure that the information that they provide is understood and usable in decision making by participating communities.*

RESPONSIBILITY

- *What measures are identified to demonstrate transparency in the exchange of ideas and in negotiations about the purpose, methodology, conduct, dissemination of results and potential outcomes/benefits of research.*
- *How provision is made for appropriate ongoing advice and review from the participating community, including mechanisms to monitor ethics standards and to minimise the likelihood of any unintended consequences arising from or after the research project.*
- *What does the proposal say about timely feedback obligations to communities and whether that feedback is relevant to the expressed concerns, values and expectations of research participants and communities.*
- *How the proposal demonstrates agreed arrangements regarding publication of the research results, including clear provisions relating to joint sign off for publication and the protection of individual and community identity if appropriate.*
- *Whether there is clarity about the demand on partners created by the proposed research and the potential implications for partners arising from it.*

SURVIVAL AND PROTECTION

- *Whether the research project contributes to or erodes the social and cultural bonds among and between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families and communities.*

- *What safeguards are in place against the research project contributing to discrimination or derision of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander individuals or cultures.*
- *Whether the proposal respects the intrinsic values based expectations and identity of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples and communities including the balance between collective and individual identity.*
- *How the proposal contributes to the opportunity for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples to better advocate for or enjoy their cultural distinctiveness.*
- *What strategies have been identified to eliminate any threats to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Peoples' ability to enjoy their cultural distinctiveness.*

SPIRIT AND INTEGRITY

- *How the proposed research demonstrates an understanding of and agreement about the relationship between the proposed research and the community's cultural, spiritual and social cohesion, including workable timeframes.*
- *Whether the proposal recognizes in the conduct of reporting or research the diversity of Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People's cultures.*
- *Whether the proponents of the proposal are able clearly to demonstrate personal integrity, specifically in the development of their proposal.*
- *Does the proposal demonstrate a commitment to working within the spirit and integrity of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples?*