

	<b>RESEARCH ETHICS BOARD</b>	
	<b>STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES</b>	
	<b>SOP Number</b>	102
	<b>Activities Requiring Research Ethics Board Review</b>	
	<b>Date of Issue</b>	2012 05 12
	<b>Date of Revision</b>	2015 05 13 2018 03 29 2022 07 13
<p><b>Purpose:</b> The purpose of this standard operating procedure (SOP) is to describe specific research activities that require Research Ethics Board (REB) review and, conversely, those activities that do not.</p> <p><b>Directives:</b> Fraser Health Policy “Research”, Fraser Health Policy “The Ethical Conduct of Research and Other Studies Involving Human Participants”</p> <p><b>References:</b> Tri-Council Policy Statement: Ethical Conduct of Research Involving Humans, Articles 2.1, 2.2, 2.3, 2.5, and 10.3</p> <p><b>Responsibility:</b> All REB members and REB Office Personnel are responsible for ensuring that the requirements of this SOP are met.</p>		

## Procedure

All research involving human participants occurring under Fraser Health auspices or in Fraser Health jurisdiction, as defined by the Fraser Health Research Policy, must be approved by the Fraser Health REB. No intervention or interaction with human participants in research, including recruitment, may begin, until the REB has approved the research protocol, consent documents and recruitment materials.

### 1.0 Research That Require REB Review

- 1.1 The following requires ethics review and approval by the REB before the research commences:
- Research involving living human participants,
  - Research involving human biological materials, as well as cadavers, human embryos, fetuses, tissues, reproductive materials and stem cells. This applies to materials derived from living and deceased individuals.

### 2.0 Research Exempt from REB Review

- 2.1 Research that relies exclusively on publicly available information when:
- The information is legally accessible to the public by law,
  - The information is publicly accessible and there is no reasonable expectation of privacy;

- 2.2 Research involving observation of people in public places where:
  - It does not involve any intervention staged by the researcher, or direct interaction with the individuals or groups,
  - Individuals or groups targeted for observation have no reasonable expectation of privacy, and
  - Any dissemination of research results does not allow identification of specific individuals;
- 2.3 Research that relies exclusively on secondary use of anonymous information, or anonymous human biological materials, so long as the process of data linkage or recording or dissemination of results does not generate identifiable information;
- 2.4 The opinion of the REB should be sought whenever there is any doubt about the applicability of the guidelines and regulations.

### **3.0 Activities Not Subject to REB Review**

- 3.1 Activities outside the scope of research subject to REB review may still raise ethical issues that would benefit from careful consideration by an individual or a body capable of providing some independent guidance, other than an REB;
- 3.2 Quality assurance and quality improvement studies, program evaluation activities, performance reviews, or testing within normal educational requirements when used exclusively for assessment, management, or improvement purposes, do not constitute research for the purposes of this SOP, and do not fall within the scope of REB review;
- 3.3 Creative practice activities, in and of themselves, do not require REB review. However, research that employs creative practice to obtain responses from participants that will be analyzed to answer a research question is subject to REB review.