

Factsheet

Far North Queensland Human Research Ethics Committee (FNQ HREC) Membership

About the FNQ HREC

Established since 1993, the FNQ HREC is responsible for reviewing and monitoring ethical conduct of all human research that falls within the jurisdiction of the Committee (Cairns and Hinterland, Torres and Cape Hospital and Health Services). When involved in reviewing health research, you have the opportunity to ensure the protection of participants' rights and welfare, foster trust in the research process, and promote high standards of scientific integrity, while shaping the future of care for communities and improving health outcomes for all.

Expressions of Interest for Members

Expressions of Interest (EOI) are invited from individuals interested in volunteering with the FNQ HREC under one of the categories outlined in the [National Statement on Ethical Conduct in Human Research 2023](#), section 5.1.30.

- Category (b) people who bring a broader community or consumer perspective and who have no paid affiliation with the institution;
- Category (c) people with knowledge of, and current experience in, the professional care or treatment of people; for example, a nurse, counsellor or allied health professional;
- Category (d) people who perform a pastoral care role in a community including, but not limited to, an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander elder or community leader, a chaplain or a minister of religion or other religious leader;
- Category (e) qualified lawyers, who may or may not be currently practicing and, where possible, is not engaged to advise the institution on research-related or any other matters; and
- Category (f) people with current research experience that is relevant to research proposals to be considered at the meetings they attend.

Requirements

- Volunteers must attend a minimum of six FNQ HREC meetings per year.
- Meetings are held every five weeks on Thursdays, starting at 5:30 PM, either virtually or in-person.
- The role requires a time commitment of approximately 6 hours per month, including reading allocated applications and attending meetings.
- For further details, please refer to our [Terms of Reference](#).



COMPASSION



ACCOUNTABILITY



RESPECT



INTEGRITY



Queensland
Government

Is this opportunity for you?

Key responsibilities for this voluntary role include:

- Understanding or learning to apply research ethics principles, particularly the National Statement and the Australian Code for the Responsible Conduct of Research (2018).
- Demonstrating an interest in health research issues.
- Evaluating the interests of potential research participants, assessing the risks and benefits of research proposals, and balancing these considerations effectively.
- Actively participating in and contributing to FNQ HREC discussions on research proposals and other ethical issues in research.
- Attending meetings as required and participating in the review of delegated HREC applications when necessary.
- Being comfortable with using online software packages.
- Engaging in educational development opportunities to enhance your knowledge and application of ethical principles (most opportunities are free or subsidised by FNQ HREC).

How to join

Please email your expression of interest to FNQ_HREC@health.qld.gov.au.

Please include:

- A cover letter addressed to the FNQ HREC Chair, Dr Angelo Diedricks outlining the position you are submitting your interest in and detailing your experience,
- Current CV.

Any questions about the role and responsibilities can be directed to the HREC Coordinator on 07 4226 5513, FNQ_HREC@health.qld.gov.au.

Also see our webpage here for more information regarding the research activities undertaken with Cairns and Hinterland Hospital and Health Service [Research | Cairns and Hinterland Hospital and Health Service](#).