What application type do I need to submit?
Researcher decision aid

Is the activity human research?

Research is widely understood to include at least investigation undertaken to gain knowledge and understanding, or to train researchers. Human research is conducted with or about people, or their data or tissue.

To schedule a meeting please vists: For researchers at SALHN | SA Health

No

Yes

Continuous Improvement: Continuous Improvement is an activity aimed at monitoring and/or improving the quality of service delivered by an individual or an organisation. This activity does not require human research ethics approval but will need to be reported to your Manager/Supervisor/Team leader and for you to complete the SALHN project evaluation form for guidance see Continuous improvement at SALHN.
Please see; NSQHS Standards User Guide for the Review of Clinical Variation in Health Care (external link)

What is the risk to the participants of the research?

It will either be low risk or greater than low risk. Research is 'low risk' where the only foreseeable risk is one of discomfort. Where the risk, even if unlikely, is more serious than discomfort, the research is not low risk. Data studies and Registries are managed via (Research GEMS)

Greater than low risk

Greater than low risk ethics and/or governance application (Research GEMS external link)

Low risk

Are the participants vulnerable? Vulnerable participants include:

- Women who are pregnant and the human fetus
- People highly dependent on medical care and may be unable to give consent
- People with cognitive impairment, an intellectual disability, or a mental illness
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples
- People who may be involved in illegal activities

Vulnerable

Greater than low risk ethics and/or governance application (Research GEMS external link)

Not vulnerable

For which sites are the researchers seeking approval?

Studies requesting approval for sites in multiple states under the National Mutual Acceptance (NMA) scheme must be reviewed by the full committee, even if they are low risk and do not involve vulnerable participants. Studies occurring in multiple sites in SA can still be reviewed through the low risk pathway provided they are low risk and do not involve vulnerable participants.

Multi-sites in different states

Greater than low risk
ethics and/or governance application (Research GEMS external link)

Single site or multisite within SA

Low risk
ethics and governance application reviewed by Expedited Review Panel (ERP)

Research Hub / Purruna-tirka Trruku
Gus Fraenkel Medical Library Level 5, Flinders Medical Centre

Health
Southern Adelaide Local Health Network

For more information

If you are still unsure on which application type you need to submit or what application documents are required, you are always welcome to contact us on Telephone: 8204 6061 or Email: Health.SALHNOfficeforResearch@sa.gov.au www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/SALHN

Interpreter

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This document has been reviewed and endorsed by consumers.

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Government of South Australia
Health
Southern Adelaide Local Health Network