

A BRIEF INTRODUCTION TO RESEARCH ETHICS IN CANADA

What determines ethical conduct for research involving humans in Canada?

TCPS2 (Tri-Council Policy Statement): Ethical Conduct for Research Involving Humans

The TCPS2 is the benchmark for the ethical conduct of research involving humans in Canada. All Canadian institutions and researchers must adhere to the TCPS2 as a condition of funding.

Core Principle 1: Respect for Persons

Respect for persons refers to the **intrinsic value of human beings** and the respect and consideration they are due.

Researchers must adhere to the dual moral obligations to respect autonomy and to protect those with developing, impaired or diminished autonomy.

(Consent and Capacity)

Core Principle 2: Concern for Welfare

The welfare of a person is the **quality of that person's experience of life** in all aspects.

Researchers and Research Ethics Boards should aim to protect the welfare of participants, and, in some circumstances, to promote that welfare in view of any foreseeable risks associated with the research.

(Risks, Privacy and Confidentiality)

Core Principle 3: Justice

Justice refers to the **obligation to treat people fairly and equitably**.

People or groups whose circumstances cause them to be vulnerable or marginalized may need to be afforded special attention to be treated justly in research.

(Equity and Vulnerability)

TIMELINE OF RESEARCH ETHICS REVIEW

KEY ELEMENTS OF A RESEARCH ETHICS REVIEW

Consent Process

- Free, informed and on-going consent
- Disclosure of risks and benefits
- Power dynamics and conflicts of interest

Research Methodology

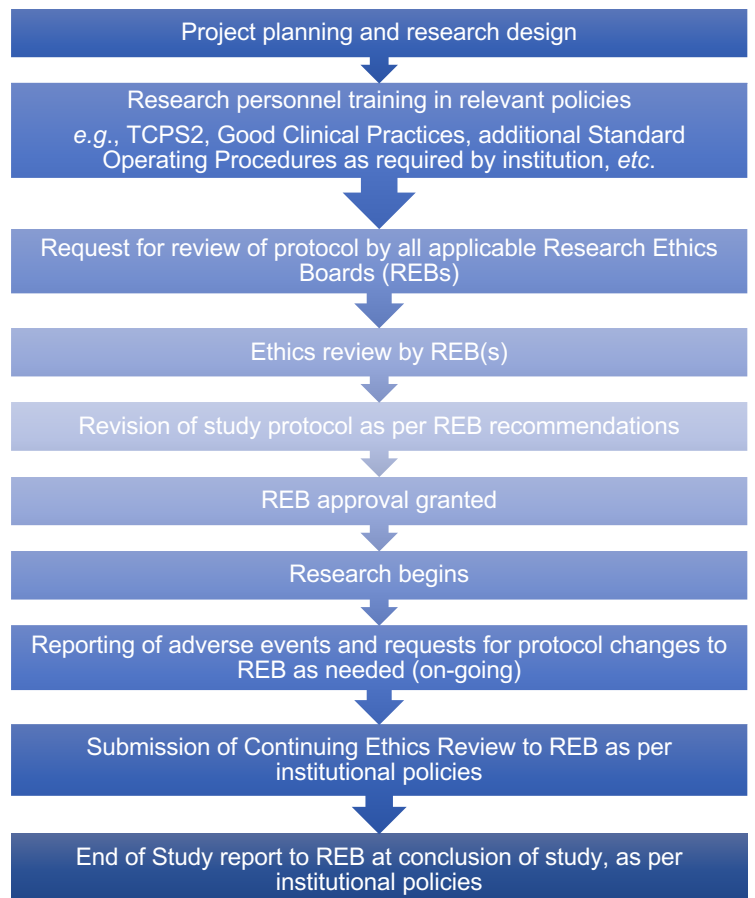
- Appropriate and justified inclusion and exclusion criteria
- Sampling techniques
- Power analyses

Research Conduct

- Welfare
- Autonomy
- Right to withdraw
- Justice

Confidentiality

- Anonymity and Privacy
- Safety
- Data handling, access, storage and retention



Who can I ask for more information?

- Your **Principal Investigator**
- Your institution's **Research Ethics Office**
- The **CFMS** and its **Research Team**

<http://www.pre.ethics.gc.ca/eng/policy-politique/initiatives/tcps2-eptc2/Default/>

<https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/drugs-health-products/compliance-enforcement/good-clinical-practices.html>

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