

HUMAN RESEARCH ETHICS COMMITTEE (HREC) ACTIVE MONITORING FORM/ ANNUAL REPORT FORM

1. Active monitoring reports (and applicable site visits) are required by the HREC for high-risk studies (refer to the HREC Standard Operating Procedures).
2. Please note that the HREC mandates annual progress reports for low and medium risk projects. For high-risk projects, a progress report is required every six months.
3. No research may continue after the ethics approval expiry date indicated on the formal Human Research Ethics Committee approval letter.
4. The completed progress report should contain sufficient information to allow the HREC to conduct a substantive and meaningful review of the progress of the project, including any ethics-related challenges or problems encountered.
5. The content of this report will be treated under the HREC's usual confidentiality regulations.
6. The Final report should be submitted to HREC after completion of data collection.

HREC reference number

SECTION A: RESEARCHER(S) DETAILS

Applicant/ Student details

Title Full names

Initials Surname

Student/ staff number Contact number

Email address

Qualification registered for in full

Department

Faculty

Supervisor details (if applicable)/ Co-researcher

Title Full names

Initials Surname

Staff number Contact number

Email address

Department

Faculty

Co-supervisor details (if applicable)/ Co-researcher

Title Full names

Initials Surname

Staff number Contact number

Email address

Department

Faculty

SECTION B: REPORT INFORMATION

1. Type of report.

Report of ongoing project	
Report of completed project	
Report of terminated project	

2. Status of the data collection phase of the project.

<i>Select the most appropriate option</i>	Date (month and year)
Data collection has been completed on	
Data collection will be ongoing until	
Data collection commenced but was prematurely terminated on	
Data collection never started, and the project was terminated on	

3. If the research project was terminated, provide the reasons for the termination.

4. Research procedures as per the approved research proposal.	Yes	No
Have the research procedures been implemented in accordance with the approved proposal?		
If no, have any changes and/or amendments that have an impact on the risk profile of the research participants been submitted for ethics approval?		
If no, provide the details of the changes and/or amendments and the reason(s) why this has not been submitted for research ethics approval?		

5. Recruitment of research participants.	
How many research participants have been recruited in the period since the last progress report?	
Indicate any ethical difficulties ¹ that have been encountered to obtain consent from potential research participants.	

¹ “Ethical difficulties” refer in this case to the issues that made it hard or impossible for the researcher / fieldworkers to obtain verbal or written consent from potential research participants, e.g. unwillingness to sign consent form, being suspicious of research, demands for incentives (money or other material items), insistence on providing collective rather than individual consent

6. Withdrawal of consent.	Yes	No
Have any of the research participants (including a parent or legal guardian in the case of minors) withdrawn their consent during the conduct of this study?		
If yes, provide the details of the number of participants, their reason for withdrawal (if known) and any action taken by the researcher(s). Researcher(s) can attach documentation for additional clarification.		

7. Unexpected ethical issue management.	Yes	No
Did any of the research participants experience serious adverse events (SAE) or other harms during the study period? Note that the occurrence of any serious adverse events should always be immediately reported to HREC; formal reporting of SAEs should not be delayed until submission of the annual progress report.		
If yes, did you report any SAE? (if applicable)		
If yes, provide the details (date, event, and outcome) and the action taken by the researcher(s). Ensure that SAE forms are attached to this report.		
If yes, indicate the HREC response or resolution of the SAE. Ensure that the response from HREC is attached to this report.		

8. Research participant complaints.	Yes	No
Did any of the research participants lodge complaints with the researcher about any ethics-related aspect of the project?		
If yes, provide the details (date, complaint, and outcome) and the action taken by the researcher(s).		

9. Issues related to intellectual property (IP).	Yes	No
Did any new intellectual property (IP) considerations arise during the current report period?		
If yes, has a formal IP agreement been submitted to the Innovation office?		

10. Other ethical issues.	Yes	No
Have any research participants been withdrawn from the project by the researcher(s)?		
Are there any other ethical issues (e.g., breaches of anonymity or confidentiality; loss of data through theft or computer failures, etc.) that you would like to bring to the attention of the HREC?		
If yes to any of the above issues, please provide details.		

SECTION C: CHECKLIST FOR RISK ASSESSMENT

	YES	NO
Does the project involve a clinical trial, i.e. the testing of any novel medical or pharmaceutical interventions?		
Is physiological/physical stress, pain, or more than mild discomfort likely to result from participation in the study?		
Are drugs, placebos or other substances (e.g. food substances, vitamins) to be administered to the research participants?		
Is emotional/psychological stress, anxiety, or more than mild discomfort likely to result from participation in the study?		
Could any research participant or his/her family/community be at risk or be adversely affected by their participation in the research project? It includes any form of cultural, social or financial risk/harm.		
Are the research participants asked potentially sensitive, incriminating, confidential or personal questions about themselves (e.g. sexual activity, drug use) or their organisation (e.g. work satisfaction)?		
Does the project require the collection of any body tissues (e.g. muscle biopsy) or fluids (e.g. blood, urine) from the research participants?		
Does the project involve the use of human/animal specimens and/or samples that were originally collected for purposes other than this research?		
Will the study involve the recruitment of TUT staff and/or students as research participants?		
Are any of the research participants limited in their ability to give informed and voluntary consent, i.e. a member of a vulnerable population? This includes clinic patients, TUT staff members, TUT students, children, elderly, terminally ill patients, mentally disabled, institutionalised and prison groupings.		
Do you have a known/special relationship with any of the research participants (e.g. lecturer-student, practitioner-patient and friend/family relationships)?		
Will it be necessary for participants to take part in the study without their knowledge and consent at the time (e.g. covert observation of people in non-public places)?		
Will any kind of incentive (including compensation for time and transport) be offered to research participants?		
Does the project involve specialised procedures that are reserved by law for registered professionals, e.g. physicians, biokineticists, and nurses?		
Does the project involve the genetic manipulation/modification of any organism/ plant?		
Will the research project have a direct impact on the natural environment/ ecosystem (e.g. collection of soil samples or plant materials, the implementation of a rehabilitation programme and the disposal of chemical waste)?		
Has any organization provided financial or in-kind support for this project? This refers to potential conflict-of-interest issues that may affect the unrestricted publication of the research results. It includes direct material benefit that the researcher may receive from the sponsoring organization for a contract research project. However, it excludes bona fide research funding agencies, such as the NRF and MRC.		

SECTION D: DECLARATION

I/we, _____ (full names and surnames) confirm that the information provided in this report is complete and accurate. I/we understand that I/we have responsibility for the protection of the rights and welfare of the research participants and the ethical conduct of this research in accordance with international research ethics principles. I/we confirm that I/we have complied with applicable TUT policies and procedures, as well as with applicable national legislation. I/we confirm that the research was/is conducted by qualified personnel as indicated in the approved research proposal. No changes were made to the consent process without prior approval by the TUT Research Ethics Committee. Legally effective informed consent/assent was obtained from all the research participants. Unanticipated harms or serious adverse events to research participants were reported to the TUT Research Ethics Committee in a timely manner.

I confirm that my submission includes the following documents which apply to the type of research project I am undertaking:

Document Checklist		Yes	No	N/A
1. Proof of Registration	<i>All Students</i>			
2. Approved research proposal	<i>All Applicants</i>			
3. Informed consent form used in obtaining informed consent from participants (if applicable)	<i>All Applicants</i>			
4. Gatekeeper permission letters (if applicable)	<i>All Applicants</i>			
5. Turnitin/Similarity Report	<i>All Applicants</i>			

Applicant signature _____ Date _____

Supervisor signature _____ Date _____

Co-supervisor signature _____ Date _____

DATA PRIVACY NOTICE

Tshwane University of Technology (TUT) is committed to safeguarding personal information in line with the requirements of the Protection of Personal Information Act No.4 of 2013 (POPIA).

TUT confirms that any personal information collected in terms of this document shall be processed lawfully in compliance with POPIA. The University may, if necessary disclose your personal information to approved third parties or related agents to carry out its function(s) in accordance with the purpose for which the information is requested.

Such disclosure shall always be subject to a written agreement concluded between the University and such a third party (“the recipient”) obligating the recipient to comply with strict confidentiality and all the information security conditions and provisions as contained in the POPIA.

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