

THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG

Human Research Ethics Committee

(Sub-Committee of the University Research Committee)

Powers and Duties

1. To keep under review, for advice to the University Research Committee, research ethics matters involving the participation of human subjects in non-clinical research protocols other than clinical studies, and research projects involving artefacts;
2. To consider individual non-clinical research protocols submitted to the Committee or referred by the Institutional Review Board of the University of Hong Kong / Hospital Authority Hong Kong West Cluster, and where appropriate, to certify that ethical requirements have been fulfilled; and
3. To monitor and evaluate the progress of approved projects to ensure that ethical requirements are being met.

Membership

1. Chairperson [appointed by the Vice-President and Pro-Vice-Chancellor for research];
2. Deputy Chairperson [appointed by the Vice-President and Pro-Vice-Chancellor for research];
3. One member each from the Faculties of Architecture, Arts, Business and Economics, Dentistry, Education, Engineering, Law, Medicine, Science and Social Sciences, who preferably are experienced in conducting non-clinical research involving human subjects, appointed by the relevant Board of the Faculty;
4. One lay member not affiliated with the institution from the Community; and
5. Such other members with specialist expertise who may be from outside or within the University to be co-opted for each meeting as necessary

Members in categories 1, 2, 3, and 4 will serve for a term of two years and will be eligible for re-appointment. A member shall not serve when his/her own research proposal is being considered.

Research protocols submitted to the Committee will be considered at meetings. Projects involving no more than minimal risk may, however, be considered by the Chairperson (or another experienced member of the Committee as recommended by the Chairperson) under “expedited review”.

October 2003

February 2011

July 2015

September 2021