

HEALTH AND WELLNESS SCIENCES RESEARCH ETHICS COMMITTEE

Declaration: Conflict of Interest

No member of the REC shall derive any personal gain, financial or materially, directly or indirectly, by reason of his or her participation in REC. Each individual shall at the first meeting of each year indicate and sign that:

- They have no perceived or real conflicts of interest regarding their membership on the REC

OR

- Provide a full disclosure of any personal conflict of interest which he or she may have

Emerging Conflicts of Interest

In the event that any conflict of interest arises during their term as a committee member the conflict must be disclosed immediately at the next meeting and be recorded in the minute.

Procedure

Having declared the conflict of interest in writing the individual shall, on each and every occasion:

- withdraw from all participation in any discussions or voting related to the declared conflict;
- refrain from influencing others regarding any associated decision making, discussion or voting.

Declaration (check A or B)

A To the best of my knowledge I have no conflicts of interest with regard to being a member of the REC.

B I consider that I have a conflict of interest:

I will be the supervisor of student research submitted to the REC

Further to this:

I will inform the REC immediately if any real or perceived conflict arises during my term.

Signature:

Date:

Printed name:

Notes

1. A copy of this Declaration, shall be kept by the Secretary of the REC.
2. In the event that a situation could be seen as a conflict, it should be discussed openly with the whole REC for their input and decision.

Appendix

Conflict of Interest

A conflict of interest occurs when a situation arises in which there is a divergence between the private/professional interests of a member of the REC and that member's obligations to the REC, such that an impartial observer might reasonably question whether actions or decisions taken or made by the member relating to that situation would be influenced by consideration of the member's private/professional interest. It would be a duality of interest. Conflict of interests (real and perceived) are often unavoidable and should not prevent an individual from serving as a REC Committee member unless the extent of the interest is so significant that the potential for divided loyalty is present in a large number of situations.

Code of Ethics adapted to fit the REC

Members of the REC shall publicly disclose any of the following interests that they may have:

Employment outside of CPUT that is connected to the proposed research

Financial interests in the proposed research

Business relationship with a company involved in the research

Close relationship to any of the persons participating in the research

Role of Supervisor of student research

Public disclosure of any such connection shall be made to the REC at a meeting. Included in the public disclosure shall be the name of the company and the interest in the company that the officer currently has. This disclosure is a matter of public record and shall be written into the minutes. The REC has the right to make an official motion that advice can be sought as to whether the disclosure does indeed present a conflict of interest that is prohibited by law or by a code of ethics. The advice shall be entered into the minutes as part of the legal record of the REC.

Consequences of Failure to Abide by this Declaration.

In the event that an individual fails to fully disclose and act on any conflict of interest in the manner outlined in this document the REC may immediately remove the individual from the Committee.