

## INTRODUCING ...(FINALLY)

We are SO excited to introduce new Research Ethics Officers Briana Chau and Monica Shin! Monica and Briana joined our team in February and are providing much needed relief (and sanity) for Jess and Kristie. Welcome Briana and Monica!

### MONICA

From recently leaving her role coordinating assessments at UBC's undergraduate medical program, Monica is thrilled to be back in a role providing support in health research. She brings a different perspective to the Research Ethics team as her background is in Alzheimer's disease neuroimaging – both in humans and rats!

### BRIANA

Briana has a BSc & MSc and has experience working in clinical research at UBC, BC Children's and BC Women's. Adding BC Cancer to her list, she is excited to learn all about the intricacies of research ethics (and how to use RISE like a pro!). In her spare time you can find her on her quest to discover all the cafes that serve Spanish lattes in Vancouver.

\*Disclaimer: MOCA scores are not collected but Jess keeps practicing just in case!

## WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT STUDENT RESEARCH

**Student research** is a huge part of the work being done at BC Cancer (thank goodness for them, right?). Think about all the co-op students, FLEX medical students, graduate students, post-doctoral fellows, the list goes on. Compounding the never-ending list of student types, here at BC Cancer we collaborate with various institutions all across BC. Many of our student researchers are affiliated with other institutions and may not have direct ties to BC Cancer themselves. It may be difficult to navigate what requirements there are when it comes to ethics applications for student research. But fear not! We are here to help.

If you are ever unsure if your student may require a separate ethics application, please refer to this handy [flowchart](#). It is important to be mindful that failing to obtain the appropriate research ethics approval could have serious implications for students' thesis or dissertation defense and graduation as research ethics review/approval cannot occur retrospectively.

Here are a few tips and tricks to help students be the best researchers they can be!

- Complete the [TCPS tutorial 'CORE'](#) if they haven't already. After completion, they can update their RISE profiles with the certificate date. FYI - There is an updated 2022 version—see last page for details.
- Keep in mind that for a new ethics application, a peer review is required. If there is an associated funding application, this also needs to be in the application.
- If the student is listed as the primary contact, it is important that they are aware to submit for annual renewals prior to the study expiry date. This is to prevent any delays in the research, which may also impact their thesis and graduation.

For more details, please see additional guidance on our [website](#).

### WHEN IT'S BETTER TO CALL YOURSELF A...

	"STUDENT"	"RESEARCHER"
GETTING A STUDENT DISCOUNT	✓	✗
REGISTERING FOR A CONFERENCE	✓	✗
USING STUDENT FACILITIES (HEALTH CENTER, GYM, HOUSING)	✓	✗
TALKING TO FRIENDS AND FAMILY	✗	✓
CRASHING DEPARTMENT PARTIES (HEALTH CENTER, GYM, HOUSING) THAT SAY "NO STUDENTS ALLOWED"	✗	✓
FINDING PARKING ON CAMPUS	✗	✓
IMPRESSING SOMEONE ON A FIRST DATE	✗	✗

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## FEELING CONFLICTED?

Conflicts of interest (COIs) arise when a person conducting the project is involved in two or more different competing interests concerning the particular research goal. The conflict may stem from the researcher's relationship with the institution and the community or may be due to their dual roles such as an ethics board member or as a shareholder of the sponsoring company.

All research applications submitted to the Research Ethics Board (REB) at BC Cancer are required to disclose any COI, including real (existing interest with sufficient influence), potential (foreseeable interest that may someday be sufficient to influence), or perceived (apparent interest that could improperly influence).

### Why must COIs be disclosed?

The risk of being in a COI is that the decisions – whether it be professional, financial, or objective – made by the researcher have the potential to be influenced. Understandably, being humans, making a wise, selfless decision while disregarding the consequences that it will have on oneself is not always easy. However, concealing a COI for one's financial benefit, reputation, or other personal gains, can lead to detrimental outcomes, including a negative effect on the integrity of the research.

### What are the responsibilities of the researcher?

Although complete elimination of conflict may not be possible, researchers are responsible for minimizing and managing conflicts which includes identifying and disclosing the COI to the REB and to the study participants.

Chapter 7 of TCPS 2 states:

“Conflicts of interest must be assessed when conducting research, as they may jeopardize the integrity of the research and the protection offered to participants.

Failure to disclose and manage conflicts may impede the informed and autonomous choices of individual to participate in research, whether the COI be real, potential, or perceived. Prospective participants need to know about real, potential, or perceived COIs in order to make an informed decision about whether to participate. COIs may also undermine the respect for participants that is fundamental to the principle of Justice.”

Transparent disclosure of COIs will provide the REB with useful information so that appropriate decisions regarding the management process can be made and implemented throughout the lifespan of the research project.

### Research Ethics is here to help!

Written policies to guide researchers have been developed so that proper steps are taken to identify, eliminate, minimize, or manage COIs. Researchers at BC Cancer need to be aware of [UBC COI Policy SC3](#), [PHSA Research COI Policy](#) and [PHSA Standards of Conduct Policy](#).



## UPDATES FROM THE WORLD OF ETHICS!

- There is a **new version of the TCPS2 tutorial** available—CORE-2022. This version include a new module “Module A9 – Research Involving Indigenous Peoples.” Modules can be completed in any order and can be used to review individual topics (but you will only get a Certificate upon successful completion of all modules and knowledge exercises). More information can be found on the [UBC Office of Research Ethics webpage](#).
- **Health Canada** has reduced the requirement for clinical trial record retention from 25 to 15 years. You can read that announcement [here](#). This is a popular one! We are already seeing revisions to applications!
- **NEW CIHR Policy Guide** – Requirements for Registration and Disclosure of Results from Clinical Trials. In addition to the requirement of registration of clinical trials: Public disclosure of result must be done within a mandated timeframe and All study publication must include the registration/Trial ID. Nominated Principal Investigators receiving CIHR grant funds for clinical trial research on or after January 1, 2022 must comply. More information can be found at [CIHR](#) and the [UBC Office of Research Ethics announcement](#).
- **NEW Consent form template!** Our [website](#) has been updated with the new revised Consent form template. This template was created to align with the National Consent Working Group and National Cancer Institute (NCI).



### REMINDER!

The RISE website has lots of helpful hints and tricks to using the platform and online submission process. Check out their landing page on [Guidance Notes and Tutorials!](#)

#### Insider tip!

The PI can change the Primary Contact without submitting an amendment! Just go to the study homepage and click “Change Primary Contact”

## IN-COMING AND OUT-GOING REB MEMBERS

### THANK YOU!

We would like to thank Dr. Anna Tinker who recently stepped down from the Research Ethics Board as a scientific reviewer. We appreciate your contributions and thoughtful reviews. We will miss you!

### WELCOME!

And, we'd like to welcome Dr. Anna Hayden, Hematologist, and Dr. Hamid Raziee, Radiation Oncologist, who have joined as a scientific reviewers.



## QUESTIONS? CONTACT US!!

We are working a hybrid WFH/in-Office model.

Email us to set up a meeting!  
reb@bccancer.bc.ca

