**AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY**

**HUMAN RESEARCH ETHICS COMMITTEE**

**RISK ASSESSMENT AND MANAGEMENT PLAN**

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| **Ethics Title:** |  | | |
| **Ethics Id:** |  | | |
| **Chief Investigator:** |  | | |
| **Identified Risks** | **Likelihood** | **Potential Impact / Outcome** | **Risk Management / Mitigating Factors** |
| **Identify the risks/hazards present** | **High / Medium / Low** | **Who might be harmed and how?** | **Evaluate the risks and decide on the precautions, eg: Health and Safety** |
| EXAMPLE:  Travel risks to location of research projects:   * Road / rail accident * Physical assault | Low | Researcher:   * Physical injury * Psychological harm | * Travel with companion * Awareness of options for mode of travel * Awareness of physical environment, e.g., alleyways, open spaces * Researcher to be aware of health and safety policies of research location: * Fire bells * Location of fire alarms & exits |
| EXAMPLE:  Discussion of a sensitive topic in an interview has potential to cause distress to participant | Medium | Participant:   * Psychological stress   Researchers:   * Anxiety about dealing with a complex situation | * Offer to cease interview * Signpost participant to external/internal support services |
| EXAMPLE:  Research involving physical activities | Medium | Participant:   * Potential for injury | * Ensure the inclusion/exclusion criteria is appropriate * If required, ensure there is someone on the research team that is trained in first aid or has medical training * Ensure that the researchers have appropriate training with the activity. * Age and ability of participant * Current health status * Medical conditions * Consideration of hidden medical conditions |
| EXAMPLE:  Incidental findings such as:  Tests undertaken could uncover a potential illness or diagnosis.  Disclosure of:   * Illegal activities * Mandatory reporting obligations * Professional reporting obligations |  | Participant: | * If applicable (i.e. genomic), a ‘return of results’ plan is in place i.e. NS 3.3.17 & 3.3.32 * Research team is aware of any reporting requirements and that a plan is in place to manage this. * Ensure participants have consented to the research with knowledge of possible reporting (i.e. police). |
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