



Ethics and Governance Application Decision Aid

What is Research?

Research is the systematic, scientific investigation among human beings and related problems. Its purpose is to contribute new knowledge to the body of literature. This can be interventional (clinical trial), observational (no change in standard care conditions/no test), or the collection of data (registries, databases) or tissue (databanks) for analysis. At SALHN Research and Continuous Improvement is classified in the below Four Fields of Enquiry

Continuous Improvement



An activity aimed at monitoring or improving the quality of service delivered by an individual or an organisation

Health Services



Data and new technologies that improve the delivery and safety of care

Discovery Science



Laboratory studies improving the understanding of the scientific basis of disease

Clinical Trials



Intervention that changes the conditions of standard care to develop evidence-based treatments



Minimal to Low Risk

Forms and study protocol template available on the [SALHN Research Website](#)

- No risk of harm or discomfort to participants, their carers/family or the Site (physical, psychological, cultural, social, economic and legal)
- Potential for minor burden or inconvenience
- Does not involve a clinical registry
- Is not among a vulnerable group - section 4 National Statement – see QR code



Assess the level of risk



Greater than Low to High Risk

Submitted on the Governance & Ethics Management Platform See [GEMS Support Page](#)

- Multi sites studies where SALHN is a contributing site
- Intervention with a risk of harm or foreseeable burden
- Registries or databanks used for the purpose of clinical assessment and research across one or more sites
- Commercially sponsored clinical drug trials
- Collaborative interventions requiring significant exchange of services

[Ethics Exemption and evaluation form](#)