

SP 30.0 Clinical Research Ethics Review

Approved by Council July 2007
Effective July 2007

Purpose and Objective

As a health care profession, research involving patients as subjects is an appropriate academic pursuit. As a regulatory organization for the chiropractic profession, it is appropriate that the ACAC have a policy on a Research Ethics Review process consistent with any academic research involving human subjects.

Definition(s)

Clinical Research Ethics Review Process exists to:

- (a) advance the dignity of human research subjects;
- (b) determine the scientific validity of research proposals;
- (c) facilitate ethical research;
- (d) review the qualifications and relevant competencies of researchers;
- (e) encourage both education and improvement in research quality;
- (f) bring social and scientific breadth to ethics review of research proposals.

Description

Clinical research conducted by chiropractors in Alberta requires Ethics Review approval by an Alberta based Ethics Review Board associated with an accredited Alberta University or another academic institution or Professional College approved by Council. ACAC members will provide the Research Proposal together with the written results of the Ethics Review Board to the Registrar prior to initiating a research project.

Enforceability

Any member identified to the Complaints Director as non-compliant in the Standard of Practice related to Clinical Research Ethics Review is subject to the investigations and complaints process under Part 4 of the *Health Professions Act*. Identification may occur as a result of Practice Visit process, patient complaint or any other means by which this information may be brought to the attention of the Complaints Director.

