

## **Notes for human ethics guidance for applications where use of cadaveric tissue is proposed**

When reflecting on the ethical issues of research with cadaveric tissue and completing the application, the following points provided guidance for specific the items in the low-risk application.

- The term participant refers to the deceased and/or their tissue. Indicate the material used for the study, type of tissue and method of preservation and number of tissue samples.
- Where there is reference to recruitment of participants in the application, describe the source of the material, e.g. QUT's body donation program via MERF, or other source, and attach the evidence of approval from the source. Discuss the selection criteria where screening is referred to. The criteria could refer to a specific aspect of the donor e.g. age, disease state, cause of death.
- Regarding consent, cadaveric (post-mortem, autopsy) tissue and biospecimens can be used for research purposes when the wishes expressed by a person about the use of their tissue post-mortem can be respected. If no such wish is discovered, consent from the person(s) authorised by relevant legislation can be used e.g. next of kin. (NS 3.2.5)
- Indicate what kind of consent was given by the original donor of the tissue. This may be unspecific consent for any use relating to medical research, for research into a specific disease state or for teaching purpose (NS 3.2.13). Indicate if the proposed use falls within the intention of the original consent, and if not justify how the proposed research accords with the wishes of the donor (when living) or their next of kin (NS 3.2.8).
- Explain how the tissue will be disposed of once the study is completed. This may include return of the tissue to the research facility from which it was obtained, incineration on site or is a pathological waste disposal service. A waiver of consent cannot be applied.
- Anatomy and transplantation act ?

Location in the OREI webspace

- Possibly best spot as concertina item under "negligible/low risk applications"
- Possibly less best spot as concertina item under Using human cell lines/Ethics review of human biospecimens in research