

Ethical Approval for Non-Clinical Research Involving Human Participants

CHECKLIST 2: Is your project 'low' or 'medium' or 'high' risk?

(to be submitted together with the relevant application form)

Questions	YES	NO
1. Will your research involve children under 16? ¹		✓
2. Will your research involve participants in unequal relationships in a context <i>outside</i> the research, (for example, participants who are in a subordinate relationship with the researcher(s) such as your own students or employees)?		✓
3. Will your research involve vulnerable participants (for example, participants with learning or communication difficulties, disabilities, members of marginalised communities, people involved in illegal activities such as drug abuse)?		✓
4. Will your research involve the use of tissue samples (including blood and biopsies from healthy volunteers) excluding use for genetic analysis only or tissue obtained from a tissue bank?		✓
5. Is there a significant risk of physical discomfort or pain to participants?		✓
6. Will the research involve working with any substances and/or equipment which may be considered hazardous?		✓
7. Will the research involve psychological intervention?		✓
8. Is there a significant risk of psychological or emotional distress to participants?		✓
9. Is there a significant risk that participants may reveal previous, current or proposed illegal acts?		✓
10. Will the study involve covert observation (i.e. participation without consent or knowledge at the time) and/or deception of any sort?		✓
11. Will it be possible to link information or data back to individual participants in any way?		✓
12. Will financial inducements or any other kind of inducements (other than reasonable compensation for time or small rewards such as vouchers) be offered to participants?		✓
13. Will the study involve discussion of sensitive or potentially sensitive topics (e.g. sexual activity, drug use)?		✓
14. Will the research involve access to data that requires permission from the appropriate authorities before use (e.g. data held by the police)?		✓

¹ The legal age of capacity in Scotland is 16 under [The Age of Legal Capacity \(Scotland\) Act 1991](#). The legal age of capacity in other jurisdictions should be checked if your research involves participants in other parts of the UK and/or internationally.



15. Is there a risk that the safety of the researcher may be compromised (e.g. working in potentially dangerous situations such as lone working or working overseas)?		✓
16. Will the research involve the collection and analysis of personal data revealing information on: racial or ethnic origin; political opinions; religious or philosophical beliefs; trade union membership; genetics, biometrics; health; sex life; or sexual orientation? ²		✓

If you have answered **NO to ALL of these questions** please use **Form A** (low risk) to complete your application. If you have answered **YES to ANY of these questions** please use **Form B** (medium/high risk) to complete your application. Please submit this checklist with your application.

² [Special categories](#) of data under the General Data Protection Regulation.