

Policy	Research	Number	3.30.30
Refer to	3.30.30.P1 Appendix A PHO Framework for Ethical Conduct of Public Health Initiatives April 2012 Appendix B Tri Council Policy Statement	Original Revised Revised	May 21, 2015 March 17, 2016
Written by	Director, Communicable Disease Control, Epidemiology & Evaluation Services	Approved by	Board of Health

The Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge (HKPR) District Health Unit recognizes the importance of evaluation and research to ensure that public health programs address the health needs of the community. The organization also realizes the importance of using cost-effective, efficient, evidence-based approaches to conduct such evaluations and research. For these reasons, staff members are encouraged to be involved in evaluation and research – either within the Health Unit or in cooperation with outside researchers or agencies.

The Health Unit will conduct and participate in evaluation and research activities which reflect its mission, vision and values (i.e. research activities that, either directly or indirectly, seek to improve the well-being of residents of Haliburton County, Northumberland County and the City of Kawartha Lakes).

In conducting evaluation and research, the Health Unit follows the Tri-Council Statement, 2nd ed. for research involving human subjects and the Public Health Ontario Framework for the Ethical Conduct of Public Health Initiatives. This policy applies to any and all evaluation and research that is engaged in by the Health Unit. The decision on whether the Tri-Council Statement is applicable to the evaluation or research rests with the Health Unit. Therefore, this document will apply to all Health Unit activities, as well as other institutions that conduct collaborative research with HKPR. (*NOTE: 1) Evaluation and research differ from surveillance, which involves the collection of data for the purpose of routine surveillance, monitoring of disease rates, and activity tracking; 2) Literature reviews—for the purpose of program planning—do not fall under this policy*).

Evaluation and research involving school students, hospital staff, or other external organizations requires the approval of the applicable governing board and/or Research Ethics Board (REB), as required, and must meet any requirements concerning notification, confidentiality, publicity, etc.

Data collected through evaluation and research are the property of the Health Unit, and may not be analysed or reported by an external agency or staff member without the express authorization of HKPR.

This policy is intended to ensure the protection of all individuals taking part in the research and guarantee the ethical conduct of all public health evaluation and research activities. All evaluation and research initiatives/projects/programs that the Health Unit

engages in will be subject to the organization's Evaluation and Research Procedure and Evaluation and Research Algorithm (ERA).

Source Documents:

Appendix A PHO framework for the ethical conduct of public health initiatives, April 2012.

Appendix B Tri-Council Policy Statement, December, 2014