

No	Questions	Answers
1	What is MHREC?	The mission of the Medical and Health Research Ethics Committee (MHREC) is to conduct scientific and ethical assessment of all studies pertaining to all aspects of human health research conducted by both Ministry of Health (MOH) and non MOH researchers in Brunei Darussalam.
2	What is the IHSREC-MHREC Joint Meeting?	This is a joint meeting by MHREC and IHSREC to review students' proposals.
3	When will I received my conditional letter?	<p>The conditional letter will be available within 2 weeks following the MHREC meeting.</p> <p>Issues stated in the conditional letter needs to be addressed within three months of the letter. Any amendments to your proposal should be indicated with red ink or highlighted and summarized in the covering letter. If the issues have not been addressed within three months, you will be required to present again at a future date.</p>
4	How long is validity of the approval letter?	<p>MHREC approval is for one year commencing from the date date the approval letter was issued, or the duration of your study, whichever is shorter.</p> <p>For any study needing an extension of ethic approval, you may request for extension a month before the end of your approval. The request letter should be submitted along with your interim report.</p> <p>Extension of a study will not be granted for any that study that has already been published.</p>
5	Who should attend the MHREC meeting?	<p>The presentation should be done by the Principal Investigator and the clinical supervisor should also be present during the meeting.</p> <p>A clinical supervisor should be present for non-clinical researcher and if the Principal Investigator is not the most senior in the department.</p> <p>A clinical supervisor should be a clinician with a relevant clinical background and the most senior</p>

		person in the department such as a consultant or a senior medical officer/Head of Department if there is no consultant.
6	Should I submit a report to MHREC once my research has been completed?	MHREC highly recommends you to submit an update of your research including any publications upon completion of your research.
7	When do I need to inform MHREC on changes to my research protocol?	<p>You need to update MHREC if there are any changes to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the research members including additional research assistants or students; • methodology or study protocol; • study design or questionnaire following pilot or pre-test. <p>Principal Investigator(s) have to write in formally to MHREC stating all the changes.</p>
8	Do I need any other permission letters to do my study?	<p>Yes, relevant permission letter should be submitted with the research proposal:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Permission letter from Biomedical Research and Ethics Unit; and • Permission from relevant Head of Department. <p>For MOH staffs—who are doing post-graduate training are also required to submit the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ethics approval from your university; and • Letter from your university confirming enrolment into graduate training.
9	What if my audit evolves into research?	For example, a clinical audit I undertook to assess the quality of my department's practice generates results that are generalizable and I would like to share these findings outside of the local setting. Prior to writing up your research for publication/presentation, submit your complete research proposal and initial findings to MHREC for ethical approval.
10	Can I apply for ethical approval after my research paper is accepted for publication and the journal requests for ethical approval from a local Research Ethics Committee?	No, retrospective ethical approval i.e. after submission to a journal will not be given.