Using Social Media for Human Research
Ethical Considerations

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What is Human Research?

- Research conducted with or about people, or their tissue or data

- Human participation in research includes:
  - taking part in surveys, interviews or focus groups
  - being observed by researchers (including audio, photo, video)
  - psychological, physiological or medical testing or treatment
  - the collection and use of body organs, tissues or fluids
  - researchers having access to personal documents or other materials
  - access to information or data, in an individually identifiable, re-identifiable or non-identifiable form, as part of an existing published or unpublished source or database
Human Research Ethics

• Need approval from a Human Research Ethics Committee
  ➢ Social and Behavioural Research Ethics Committee (SBREC)
  ➢ Southern Adelaide Clinical HREC (SACHREC; SALHN; FMC)
  ➢ Other HRECs (for S&B research)

• National Statement on Ethical Conduct in Human Research
Research Using Social Media

Data Collection
• Even if the data are considered publicly available, you will still need ethics approval
• Exemption only for negligible risk + non-identifiable data in an existing database

Interacting with Participants
• Terms and conditions
• Data ownership
• Risks
• Consent
• Privacy
• Identity
• Anonymity
• Confidentiality

Using Social Media to Advertise Studies and Recruit Research Participants
Flinders University's strategic professors.

India alliances to build strong links
Strategic agreements with three key universities in India will lift Flinders University’s international ties.

Select a section:
- Nothing to fear from cancer: Grey car
- Appraise for young heroes of science
- PhD boost for maritime archaeology

Support
- Funding and contracts
- Ethics, biosafety and integrity
- Data and performance
- Development and training
- Research Services Office

Our research
- Research focus & expertise
- Research achievements
- Strategic research priorities
- Research centres & institutes
- Excellence in Research Australia (ERA)
- Find a research contact

Research degrees
- Study a research degree
- Find a research supervisor
- Current research students

Research at Flinders University
Flinders University is renowned for world-class research and innovation that is relevant, of high quality, and has real impact. We continue to receive significant amounts of funding to carry out research.

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Participate in research studies
We are always looking for research study or survey volunteers.

If you would like to participate, please browse through the research studies below. Most research study volunteers will be reimbursed in some way.

Medical, nursing and health research [previous projects]

- Health messages and personal brand awareness
- Survey about health and physical activity behaviours
- Treatment to improve symptoms of disordered eating
- Food and cravings daily data study
- Computer gaming and sleep during adolescence
- Evaluation of augmented reality, authoring using handheld devices
- Management of our identities
- Relationships for people with physical and communication difficulties
- Behavioural Activation group treatment program for young people
- The "break from gaming" challenge
- Therapy following trauma
- Chocolate cravings study
- Food and eating habits in women

Medical, Nursing and Health Research

About our research studies
All research involving human participants requires ethics approval. These research studies have received approval from a human research ethics committee registered with the NHMRC, most commonly the Social and Behavioural Research Ethics Committee at Flinders University, or the Southern Health Clinical Human Research Ethics Committee.

Seeking volunteers?
If you are a Flinders University researcher looking for study volunteers, please contact your faculty as below to have your study listed here.

Education, Humanities and Law
Email: edresearch@flinders.edu.au

Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences
Email: health.research@flinders.edu.au

Science and Engineering
Email: facresearch@flinders.edu.au

Social and Behavioural Sciences
Email: sbsresearch@flinders.edu.au

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Using Social Media for Recruitment

- You must include recruitment strategies in your ethics application, and only use approaches approved by the HREC.

- SBREC does not allow the use of personal social media pages:
  - Not appropriately representing the University
  - Potential coercion of family and friends

- However, you can set up professional social media pages for recruitment:
  - For a project or set of projects
  - Identify yourself as a Flinders University researcher
  - State that you have approval from the relevant HREC
  - Ensure that all information has been HREC-approved
  - You do not need further permission from the University