



Human Research Ethics Committee Guidelines

MARKET RESEARCH COMPANIES/USE OF ORGANISATION DATABASES

Market Research Companies may be used for data collection providing researchers provide confirmation that:

1. Market Research Companies are accredited by, or members of, their national professional association;
2. Companies must observe both ethical and standard conditions for conducting and reporting research consistent with NHMRC guidelines;
3. Research data must not be used for non-research purposes;
4. Participants must be fully informed about the research and their involvement voluntary;
5. Participant's confidentiality and privacy must be strictly observed.
6. Participants must not be harmed or adversely affected by participation;
7. Strict confidentiality must be maintained for all data.

An agreement between the Market Research Company and Macquarie University must exist to ensure that the Macquarie University researchers have the sole right to the data for research purposes.

The Contracts Team can be contacted for advice at:

http://www.research.mq.edu.au/for/researchers/how_to_request_a_research_contract/request_for_service

Researchers will disclose to the HREC the source and amount of funds used to employ the Market Research Company.

Use of Organisation Databases

Researchers using organisational databases to recruit participants must provide written permission from the data custodian to the HREC.