

# Criteria for Ethical Review Checklist

Does this evidence generation project/programme need to go through an ethical review process?

<b>Does the project/programme Involve:</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
Children as participants, researchers and data collectors?		
Primary research specifically targeting persons with an illness, disability, mental health issue or persons in institutions?		
Primary research targetting and involving a group that may be perceived as vulnerable within the local context (e.g women, minority groups, persons with HIV/AIDS, the economically and educationally disadvantaged, persons in institutions, trafficked persons, persons who have or are experiencing violence)?		
Primary research within humanitarian contexts (that is not routine monitoring/administrative data)?		
Primary research specifically exploring issues related to prevalence or experiences of, or attitudes towards, violence, abuse or trauma?		
Health-based assessments, diagnoses and treatments as part of the evidence generation programme?		
Data analysis of restricted access or non-anonymised data of individuals?		
Secondary data analysis where the findings may be sensitive?		
Merging of databases that will result in personal information becoming identifiable?		
The measurement and collection of health-related data, including assessments, diagnoses and the collection of biological samples?		
Primary data collection that involves questions on prevalence or experiences of, or attitudes towards, Violence, Abuse, Prostitution, Female Genital Mutilation, Political views, HIV/AIDS, Reproductive, sexual, reproductive and mental health?		
Primary data collection that involves questions that may be considered private or sensitive in the local context?		
Eliciting opinions for which fear may exist of public disclosure resulting in limitations to future freedoms and access to services?		
Randomised Control Trials involving the provision of cash transfers, or other goods and services, to one group and not to another group?		
The implementation of MICS within your country?		

If there is *at least* one tick in the 'yes' column (highlighted column) then the project/programme will need to go to review.

If there is no tick in the 'yes' column then this project/programme will merely be required to go through the traditional CO/RO quality assurance processes as determined by the relevant SOP.

**An ethical Review may not be required when the evidence generation programme:**

1. Uses only previously collected (secondary), de-identified data or samples (where there is no way to link the data or samples back to individuals)
2. Involves the collection of routine monitoring/administrative data
3. Undertakes a review of the literature (systematic reviews, literature reviews, rapid reviews) or involves analysis of information that is clearly publically available (websites, organisational reports) where the analysis and findings is unlikely to cause stigma to individuals and or their communities.
4. Where primary data collection is from experts or administrators and where publication of the findings and opinions will not cause harm to those participating.
5. Where primary data collection relates to;
  - non sensitive subjects and,
  - does not involve vulnerable groups and,
  - does not have the potential to compromise the confidentiality of data nor the privacy of individuals and,
  - does not threaten the safety or security of those involved or their communities and,
  - the risk of harm to participants and their community is limited or minimal
  - Does not involve unequal distribution of resources or access to services