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Dear colleagues

ADHERANCE TO ETHICS REGULATIONS

After due consideration, I have found it necessary to communicate to all employees of the Faculty of Health Sciences, which is a professional and ethical driven faculty, the importance to adhere to the prescribed rules and/or regulations governing all research ethics related to Health Sciences.

The rules and/or regulations, under which research ethics is done within the faculty, are governed by the following on national level:

- The National Health act, Act 61 of 2003 (in particular sections 71 – 73);
- Ethics in Health Research: Principles, Processes and Structures (these are the guidelines from the Department of Health and the NHREC, which were officially released in 2015); and
- The promulgated Regulations Relating to Research with Human Participants (No. R.719 of 19 September 2014).
- The South African Bureau of Standards' *South African National Standard (SANS 10386:2008)*

The rules and/or regulations, under which research ethics is done within the faculty, are governed by the following on University level:

- Rules of the Institutional Research Ethics Regulatory Committee (IRERC) and the Research Ethics Committees of the North-West University;
- The Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for the Health Research Ethics Committee (HREC); and
- The Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for Animcare.

In light of the above, I am placing it on record and kindly instructing all researchers and/or employees, to adhere to the rules and regulations as set out in the abovementioned act, regulations and/or procedures.

Kindly note that failure to do so, may lead to internal disciplinary action, intervention at national level and/or the disregarding of research done.

Further note that if you have any enquiries and/or need any assistance or training on this particular matter, please do not hesitate to contact the Head of the Ethics Office, Prof Minrie Greeff at Minrie.Greeff@nwu.ac.za.

I trust that I will have everyone's co-operation in this regard and I am looking forward to all your future research outputs.

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Prof A.F. Kotzé

Dean: Faculty of Health Sciences