

Research & Indigenous People: Purpose, Ethics & Principles



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**“Wear your softest moccasins
when you are going through the
hearts of Indigenous persons”**

Purpose in Research

- To recognize, acknowledge, gain a better understanding of, advocate for, and respect the lived experiences of Indigenous people with cancer and their families. To attest the importance of wellness through the interrelationship of food, land, medicine and ceremony and ways to respect their interrelationships in living a good life and advancing wellness throughout the cancer journey.
- To honour and connect Indigenous peoples' diverse lived experiences with cancer across the cancer journey, and to strengthen and uphold the capacity of Indigenous people experiencing cancer, their families, supports, communities and organizations in self-determining ways to improve wholistic research processes and impacts.
- To improve cancer outcomes and wellness throughout the lifespan for Indigenous people, families and their communities. This includes facilitation of primary, secondary and tertiary prevention of cancer, as well as palliative care. (CIRNAC, 2017)

Ethics in Research

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- TCPS-2 Chapter 9: “Research Involving the First Nation, Inuit, and Métis Peoples of Canada” <http://www.pre.ethics.gc.ca/eng/policy-politique/initiatives/tcps2-eptc2/Default/>
 - Speaks to the rights and protection of Indigenous people and communities in research
 - First Nations Principles of OCAP®
 - Ownership, Control, Access, Possession
 - Inuit Values in Research [Guiding Principles Poster.pdf \(gov.nu.ca\)](#)
 - 9 Societal Values - **Aajiiqatigiinniq**: Decision making through discussion and consensus
 - Principles of Ethical Métis Research [Guide Ethics NAHOMetisCentre.pdf \(achh.ca\)](#)
 - 6 Principles of research in a context of Métis people – Safe & Inclusive Environments

Principles in Research

- Best practices in engagement - Relationships
- Diversity, Fairness, Inclusivity
- Bridging knowledge systems - Ethical Space
- Recognizing the need to apply Indigenous knowledge in healing and research
- Emphasizing culturally safe & appropriate processes, practices & outcomes
- Cancer, and ill-health more generally, needs to be understood as a consequence of structural and institutional racism

Outcomes

- Concrete Benefits to Participants
- Sharing Findings by Returning to the Community
- Maintaining Relationships
- Evaluation & Indigenous Values
- Sustainability of Outcomes at Systems, Community & Care Provider Levels





Thank You

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