

MEMORANDUM

To: Metro South Research Community

Copies to: Metro South Health Executive Directors, Divisional Chairs, Research Directors, and Research Managers

From: Professor John Upham, Executive Director, Metro South Research **Contact No:** 3443 8065

Subject: Research Integrity Training – Mandatory from 1 January 2024

File Ref: RMT2024

Metro South Health (MSH) recognises the necessity of cultivating an environment where ethical conduct and adherence to rigorous scientific principles are upheld at every stage of the research process. In 2023, in support of the [MSH Research Strategy 2019-2024](#), three research integrity online modules were launched via MSHLearn and made accessible to all MSH employees:

1. Research integrity – [concepts](#) (20-25 min completion time)
2. Research integrity – [probity and bias](#) (20-25 min completion time)
3. Research integrity – [breaches of the Code](#) (20-25 min completion time)

The total time to complete all three modules is approximately 60 mins (one certificate generated).

On 28 July 2023, MSH Research Council determined that completion of all three MSH Research Integrity Training online modules will become mandatory for all MSH employees undertaking research in MSH from 1 January 2024.

As part of this mandate, all researchers seeking authorisation of research from 1 January 2024 must provide evidence of Research Integrity Training completion (i.e., a valid Research Integrity Training Certificate), as part of the Site Specific Authorisation (SSA) process. A three-year renewal requirement will also be implemented.

Notification of this mandatory requirement is being provided now to give the MSH research community an opportunity to complete MSH Research Integrity Training online modules prior to 1 January 2024.

To remove any doubt the following documents must be provided with the SSA from 1 January 2024:

Mandatory Requirement	Role	Renewal	Evidence
Curriculum Vitae (CVs)	Principal Investigators/ Coordinating Principal Investigators	2 year renewal	CV document
Good Clinical Practice (GCP)	All research team members	3 year renewal	GCP Certificate
Research Integrity	All research team members	3 year renewal	Research Integrity Certificate

The Principal Investigator/Coordinating Principal Investigator at the site has the responsibility for ensuring that all members of the research team undertake Research Integrity Training prior to the commencement of the study.

External researchers on a research project (i.e., non-MSH employees) may provide evidence of research integrity training from their University or Institute (as applicable). External access to MSH Research Integrity Training online modules can be facilitated by Metro South Research. Please contact via email MSH-Research@health.qld.gov.au to request access and discuss the process.


Please note: MSH employees must complete all three MSH Research Integrity Training online modules via MSHLearn to meet the mandatory requirement (even if they have completed other research integrity training via their affiliated university).

Metro South Research acknowledges the requirement to upload various certificates as part of the SSA may be burdensome to researchers and is therefore investigating other options to record research mandatory training information in MSH. Further information will be provided as systems are developed.

Metro South Research is also establishing a MSH Research Integrity Advisor Network which will serve as a support network to promote and maintain research integrity within MSH. The network comprises of trained individuals who will collaborate to provide support and guidance to researchers, HRECs, and other stakeholders.

The MSH Research Integrity Advisor Network will serve as an essential pillar in providing the necessary guidance, support, and oversight to maintain and develop the culture of research integrity, so that research within our health service is conducted ethically and to the highest clinical, financial, and scientific standards.

Thank you, if you have any questions regarding Research Integrity Training requirements in MSH please contact the Metro South Research office via MSH-Research@health.qld.gov.au.



Professor John Upham
Executive Director
Metro South Research
17/08/2023