



Australian Government  
 Department of Defence  
 Department of Veterans' Affairs

DDVA HREC/OUT/2020/BN16087438

**MINUTES OF THE 27th MEETING OF THE DEPARTMENTS OF DEFENCE  
 AND VETERANS' AFFAIRS HUMAN RESEARCH ETHICS COMMITTEE  
 (DDVAHREC) EC00460  
 AT 1300 HOURS ON MONDAY 11 MAY 2020**

**Attendees:**

Mr Ian Tindall	Chair (via videoconference)
Mr Tony Cotton	Deputy Chair
Mr Lindsay Roe	Layperson
Ms Margaret Proctor	Layperson (via teleconference)
Mr Stephen Brimstone	Professional care/counselling (via teleconference)
Rev Dr Nikki Coleman	Pastoral care
Dr Wendy Bonython	Lawyer (via teleconference)
Dr Bert Biggs	Researcher (via teleconference)
Dr Jane Harte	Researcher (via teleconference)

**Secretariat:**

Ms Terri Davis	Assistant Director Research Ethics
Ms Megan Barker	Senior Research Ethics Officer
Ms Lindsay Pennock	Outgoing Assistant Director Research Ethics
Ms Kate Swain	Research Administration Officer (via teleconference)

**Apologies with comments:**

Dr Chris Wilson	Contemporary Veteran (out-of-session)
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**Apologies:**

Dr Vicki Ross	Defence Health Graduate
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**ITEM 1 – OPENING**

**1.01 – Opening**

1. The Chair opened the meeting at 1300 hours, welcomed members and noted apologies from those listed above.
2. The Chair noted that Dr Wilson (contemporary veteran) has provided out-of-session feedback on the tabled agenda items.

**1.02 – Introduction of Observers**

3. [s47F] and [s47F] were present for the initial part of the meeting however, they excused themselves once all members were present (prior to the commencement of agenda item 2).

### 1.03 – Update on application 241-20 Chloroquine Chemoprophylaxis Countermeasure against COVID19 (C4)

4. The Committee noted that:
  - a. the research proposal was considered out-of-session by the full HREC
  - b. some members requested changes and/or points of clarification on the proposal and five members were in dissent with the general consensus of the committee
  - c. CDRE Curtis declared a conflict of interest and abstained from the consideration of this application
  - d. the existence of 241-20 *Chloroquine Chemoprophylaxis Countermeasure against COVID19 (C4)* in March 2020 was not mentioned at the previous meeting, nor in the Minutes, notwithstanding it has already been granted ethical approval out-of-session by the Chair.
  - e. an adverse event report has been submitted. Further information will be provided as part of the agenda at the June 2020 DDVA HREC meeting
  - f. a protocol amendment is anticipated in the near future
  - g. process issues regarding the consideration of this application will be discussed as part of the planned larger review.

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**ITEM 10 – NEXT MEETING**

74. The next DDVA HREC meeting is scheduled for 22 June 2020 at 1300 hours, at Campbell Park Offices in Canberra. The Assistant Director Research Ethics is in the process of finalising the agenda for the remainder of the year and aims to have this done by COB 18 May 2020.

**Action:** ADRE to finalise meeting roster for the remainder of the year and circulate it to members.

75. The meeting closed at 1725 hours.

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**Mr Ian Tindall**  
Chair  
16 May 2020

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**Ms Terri Davis**  
Meeting Secretary  
16 May 2020

**Distribution list:**

DDVA HREC

**For information:**

Director General Health Business & Plans (Defence)

Chief Data Officer (DVA)

Director Strategic Clinical Assurance and Ethics (Defence)

Director Data Information and Insights (DVA)

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<p><b>241-20 – Chloroquine Chemoprophylaxis Countermeasure Against COVID-19 (C4) Study</b> (Greater than low risk)</p>	<p><b>Major Scott Hahn</b> Australian Defence Force Malaria and Infectious Disease Institute (ADFMIDI)</p>	<p>22 March 2020 - application received. 25 March 2020 - Approval provided by DDVA HREC Chair and sub-committee. <i>Ethical approval granted from 25 March 2020 – 25 March 2022.</i> Research project is confidential in nature. Approval provided out of session due to time criticality of the COVID-19 crisis.</p>
		<p>9 April 2020 - The National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) provided an external review and made suggestions for improvement. These suggestions were implemented and the 2nd sub-committee was formed to encompass the full committee categories with the subcommittees review.</p>
		<p>10/11 April 2020 - 2nd Sub-committee review. 11 April 2020 - Reconsideration and approval to proceed with minor consideration by Acting DDVA HREC Chair and sub-committee.</p>
		<p>17 April 2020 - DDVA HREC Committee (all members) reviewed, provided comment and provided recommendation.</p>

Protocol number and title	Principal Investigator and Institution	Notes
		The majority of the committee Approved/Approved with changes and the approval was provided to the Researchers (see 1.03 for more information).

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