

THE AGA KHAN UNIVERSITY

Faculty of Health Sciences Medical College

INTERNAL MEMO

From: Prof. Rodney Adam

Chair of the Scientific Research Committee

Faculty of Health Sciences Aga Khan University, EA

To: Dean, SONAM

Dean, GSMC Dean, MC Director, IHD

Director, CoE-WCH

Associate Dean Research, FHS

Date: 28th June 2022

Re: Scientific Research Committee (SRC) Review of Research Protocols

Further to the recent communication on the launch of an online protocol submission system (Infonetica), this is to inform you that effective July 1, 2022 all research protocols submitted for ISERC review will now be required to get methodology quality clearance from the SRC. Scientific review process is anticipated to take approximately two weeks. Principal investigators are advised to factor this in their timelines for scheduled ISERC submission deadlines.

Infonetica provides a platform for progressing applications from SRC to ISERC automatically upon approval by the first committee without need for resubmission. This additional requirement for research quality scrutiny by the university and national regulator should therefore not result in prolongation of review turnaround time but increase efficiency. SRC has also put in place a review process to fast-track case reports and case series designs through administrative action by committee chair.

Investigators desiring to have their applications considered by ISERC review in August 2022 will be required to take into consideration the time required to clear with SRC. The submission timelines are listed below:

| ISERC Meeting dates | Deadline for submission - 17.00hrs EAT |
|--|--|
| 17 th January 2022 | 31 st December 2021 |
| 14 th February 2022 | 28 th January 2022 |
| 7 th March 2022 | 25 th February 2022 |
| 11 th April 2022 | 25 th March 2022 |
| 9 th May 2022 | 22 nd April 2022 |
| 13 th June 2022 | 27 th May 2022 |
| 11 th July 2022 | 24 th June 2022 |
| Effective 1st July 2022 - Submission on infonetica will also be reviewed by the SRC | |
| 8 th August 2022 | 15 th July 2022 |
| 12 th September 2022 | 15 th August 2022 |
| 17 th October 2022 | 5 th Sep 2022 |
| 14 th November 2022 | 17 th Oct 2022 |
| 5 th December 2022 | 4 th Nov 2022 |
| 16 th January 2023 | 5 th Dec 2022 |
| The ISERC proceeds on recess from 16 th December 2022 to 2 nd January 2023 | |