

**Date:** 2 April 2014 (amended 29 October 2014)  
**To:** Prof Rinaldo Bellomo  
 Intensive Care Unit  
 Austin Health  
**Project:** A Pilot, Randomised, blinded, multicentre, feasibility, safety and biochemical and physiological efficacy study of normal saline vs. plasmalyte in Intensive therapy  
**HREC Ref No:** HREC/13/Austin/177  
**Agenda Item No:** 5.1  
**Approval Period:** 2 April 2014 to 2 April 2017

Re: New Protocol approved		
Document(s) reviewed	Version	Date
Protocol	2	20 March 2014
Plasmalyte Product Information No.1		
Plasmalyte Product Information No. 2		
Sodium Chloride Product Information		
NEAF Application AU/1/D13B14		21 October 2014
Victorian Specific Module		24 March 2014
Master Participant Information and Consent Form - enrol	1	20 March 2014
Master Participant Information and Consent Form – continue participation	1	20 March 2014
Master Person Responsible Information and Consent Form - enrol	1	20 March 2014
Master Person Responsible Information and Consent Form – continue participation	1	20 March 2014

Further to my letter dated **2 December 2013** concerning the above detailed project, I am writing to acknowledge that your response to the issues raised by the Human Research Ethics Committee at their meeting on **21 November 2013** is satisfactory. This project now has full ethical approval for a period of three years from the date of this letter.

Approval is given for this research project to be conducted at the following sites and campuses:

- **Austin Health**
- **Geelong Hospital**
- **Western Hospital**

The Coordinating Principal Investigator is responsible for notifying Principal Investigators. The Coordinating Principal Investigator and Principal Investigators should forward a copy of this letter to their site's Research Governance Officer.

SSA authorisation is required at all sites participating in the study. SSA must be authorised at a site before the research project can commence.

The completed Site-Specific Assessment Form and a copy of this ethics approval letter must be submitted to the Research Governance Officer for authorisation by the Chief Executive or delegate. This applies to each site participating in the research.

**The Lead site and each participating site must also have the following:**

Before the study can commence you must ensure that you have

- A signed Clinical Trial Agreement
- Signed indemnities
- A signed CTN form (copy of the CTN acknowledgment from the TGA is only applicable for the first site notifying the TGA). Please note a copy of the acknowledgement is to be forwarded to the site Research Governance Officer (RGO) as per your Governance Officer requirements.
- It is a requirement that a progress report is submitted to the Committee annually, or more frequently as directed. Please note a final report must be submitted for all studies. Should you plan for your study to go beyond the 3-year ethics approval, please request in writing an extension of ethics approval prior to its lapsing. If your study will not commence within 12 months, a request must be forwarded to the HREC justifying the delay beyond 12 months. Should such a request not be received, ethics approval will lapse and a resubmission to the HREC will then be necessary.
- After commencement of your study, should the trial be discontinued prematurely you must notify the HREC of this, citing the reason.
- Any changes to the original application will require a submission of a protocol amendment for consideration as this approval only relates to the original application as detailed above.
- It is now your responsibility to ensure that all people (i.e. all investigators, sponsor and other relevant departments in the hospital) associated with this particular study is made aware of what has been approved.

**The following points are Research Governance Requirements applicable to Austin Heath (Participating sites must follow their Institutions RGO requirements):**

- A copy of the CTN acknowledgment from the TGA. Please note a copy of the acknowledgement is to be forwarded to the site Research Governance Officer (RGO) as per your Governance Officer requirements.
- For trials involving radiation it is your responsibility to ensure the research is added to the site Management Licence issued by Department of Human Services – Radiation Safety Section prior to study commencement should it be required (check your Medical Physicist Report). The site RGO must be notified when the research has been added to the licence.
- Please notify the HREC of any changes to research personnel. All new investigators must be approved prior to performing any study related activities.

The Committee wishes to be informed as soon as practicable of any untoward effects experienced by any participant in the trial where those effects in degree or nature were not anticipated by the researchers. The HREC has adopted the NHMRC Australian Health Ethics Committee (AHEC) Position Statement 'Monitoring and reporting of safety for clinical trials involving therapeutic products' May 2009

**Please ensure you frequently refer to the Research Ethics website**

**<http://www.austin.org.au/researchethics/> for all up to date information about research and ethical requirements.**

**DETAILS OF ETHICS COMMITTEE:**

It is the policy of the Committee not to release personal details of its members. However I can confirm that at the meeting at which the above project was considered, the Committee fulfilled the requirements of the National Health and Medical Research Council in that it contained men and women encompassing different age groups and included people in the following categories:

Chairperson Ethicist Lawyer Lay Man Lay Woman Person fulfilling a Pastoral Care Role Person with Counselling Experience	<b>Additional members include:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Chairs of all sub committees, or nominees</li><li>• Other persons as considered appropriate for the type/s of research usually being considered</li></ul>
---	--

Person with Research Experience	
---------------------------------	--

I confirm that the principal investigator or co-Investigators were not involved in the approval of this project. I further confirm that all relevant documentation relating to this study is kept on the premises of Austin Health for more than three years.

Yours sincerely,



**Dr Sianna Panagiotopoulos, PhD**  
**Manager, Office for Research**

This HREC is constituted and operates in accordance with the National Health and Medical Research Council's (NHMRC) *National Statement on Ethical Conduct in Human Research (2007)*, *NHMRC and Universities Australia Australian Code for the Responsible Conduct of Research (2007)* and the *CPMP/ICH Note for Guidance on Good Clinical Practice annotated with TGA comments (July 2008)* and the applicable laws and regulations; and the *Health Privacy Principles in The Health Record Act 2001*. The process this HREC uses to review multi-centre research proposals has been certified by the NHMRC.