



Ontario Cancer Research Ethics Board (OCREB) Studies At TBRHSC

The Ontario Cancer Research Ethics Board (OCREB) is a provincial ethics board that provides initial and ongoing review of protocols for multi-centre cancer trials in Ontario. OCREB will serve as the Thunder Bay Regional Health Science Centre's Board of Record for the majority of multi-centre cancer research that is being conducted within the Northwestern Ontario Regional Cancer Care program.

OCREB is a properly constituted board with diverse membership that reflects the composition recommended by the Tri-Council Policy Statement. Also in accordance with the Tri-Council Policy Statement, OCREB will be an independent body with accountability to the Advisory Committee and ultimately the Board of Directors of Ontario Cancer Research Network (OCRN). OCREB meets monthly to review multi-centre and epidemiological cancer research and disseminates their findings to research sites with which they have an identified and defined relationship.

Responsibilities of OCREB:

As the Thunder Bay Regional Health Science Centre's Board of Record for multi-centre cancer research, OCREB accepts REB responsibility for defined studies including initial and continuing review, review and approval of protocol amendments and administrative revisions, and evaluation of Serious Adverse Events (SAE). OCREB also reviews local consent forms and other documents related to the study such as recruitment tools and advertisements.

1. OCREB is responsible for communicating with the Local Responsible Investigator regarding the review of specific studies and for providing official documentation of the study status.
2. OCREB will provide REB oversight to the Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Centre for specific multi-centre cancer research. The responsibility includes, but is not limited to, monitoring protocol compliance and providing a contact for questions about subject rights or complaints about a research study.
3. OCREB will inform the Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Centre RET immediately of any OCREB policy decisions or regulatory matters that might affect the Institution's reliance on OCREB reviews or oversight.

Responsibilities of the Local Responsible Investigator and their Research Team:

1. The Local Responsible Investigator (LRI) is responsible for reviewing all research studies for their feasibility and impact on the Cancer Program and the broader Health Sciences Centre. In this process the LRI will work with the study team to assess budgets, impact on institutional resources and coordinate the review and signing of study contracts.
2. The LRI will submit an application form to OCREB outlining the research project as well as the details of local research processes. This application will be signed by both the LRI and the President of Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Centre.

3. Accompanying the application, the LRI will sign an agreement defining OCREB as the Board of Record for the specific research study. This form is also signed by the President of Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Centre.
4. The LRI will inform the Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Centre RET of all research projects that have been submitted for review by OCREB. Research that has been approved by OCREB will be reported on the Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Centre RET agenda to be recorded in the minutes and reported to the MAC and Senior Management through monthly minutes.
5. The LRI, with the research team, will maintain complete and accurate files of all ethics documents related to studies for which OCREB is responsible and make these files available to the Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Centre RET when required.