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8 April 2024

A/Prof Niusha Shafiabady
College of Engineering, IT and Environment
Via email

Niusha.shafiabady@cdu.edu.au

Dear Niusha,

RE: H24003 – Improving the Well-being of Clients with Healthcare Needs Using the Retrofit Bidet

Human Research Ethics Committee – Proposal Approval

Thank you for submitting the above-mentioned project proposal for ethical review. The proposal has been determined under the procedures of the Charles Darwin University Human Research Ethics Committee (CDU-HREC) to meet the requirements of *The National Statement on Ethical Conduct in Human Research* and is **approved from the date of this letter to the expiry date listed below.**

EXPIRY DATE: 01 September 2026

An annual progress report must be provided to the Research Integrity and Ethics Team before each anniversary of the commencement date. This approval is contingent on submission of a satisfactory annual progress report.

APPROVAL IS SUBJECT TO the following:

1. The safe and ethical conduct of this project is entirely the responsibility of the investigators and their institution(s).
2. The Principal Investigator must **report immediately any event or circumstance that might affect the ethical acceptability** of the project, including:
 - Adverse effects of the project on participants and the steps taken to deal with these;
 - All other unforeseen events that influence the protocol or participants; and
 - New information that may invalidate the ethical integrity of the study.
3. The Principal Investigator must obtain approval for any **variation to the protocol** (including the addition of new investigators) prior to implementation the proposed variations. Requests for approval of variations must be submitted in accordance with the procedures of the Research Integrity and Ethics Team.
4. The Principal Investigator must advise the University immediately of **unapproved protocol deviations or protocol violations.**

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5. The Principal Investigator may request an **extension of the project past the expiry date listed above**. An extension may be requested at any time, however, the preferred time and method of requesting an extension of ethical approval is in the **annual progress report**.
6. The Principal Investigator must notify the Research Integrity and Ethics Team of his or her **inability to continue as Principal Investigator**, including the name of and contact information for their replacement. The research may not proceed without an approved Principal Investigator.
7. All investigators are responsible for **retaining clear, secure and complete records of all research** including data, primary materials and records regarding *consent, access, ownership, retention, use and future use*.
8. Confidentiality of personal information of research participants should be maintained at all times as required by law.
9. You must forward a copy of this letter to all investigators and to any associated organisations.

This letter constitutes ethical approval from the CDU Human Research Ethics Committee only.

Should you wish to discuss the above research project further, please contact the Research Integrity and Ethics Team via email: ethics@cdu.edu.au or telephone: (08) 8946 6063.

Best wishes for the success of your project.

Yours sincerely



Associate Professor Sue Smith
Chair of Human Research Ethics Committee
Charles Darwin University, NHMRC Registration No. EC00154
[CDU Ethics](#)

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 (2023).