

**Contact:** Sydney Local health Network (SLHN)  
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CONCORD  
REPATRIATION GENERAL  
HOSPITAL

**Our Ref:**

23 June, 2011

Dr Greg Falk  
29/12-18 Tryon Road  
LINDFIELD NSW 2070

FAXED

Dear Dr Falk,

**Re: Data collection Upper GI Surgery Unit – Gastric Cancer Unit**

Thank you for your correspondence of 03 June 2011 requesting Ethics Committee approval for a quality audit process of the Upper GI Surgical Unit data.

This request was considered by the Chairman on behalf of the Human Research Ethics Committee on 23 June 2011.

In relation to the gastric cancer study (morbidity and mortality assessment of gastric cancer surgery and the adequacy of resection), the Chairman was happy to grant temporary approval for the ongoing data collection for a period of 12 months (**until June 2012**) to allow you to complete the study. Your ethics approval number for this study is **CH62/6/2011-092**.

However, in relation to ongoing collection of Upper GI Surgical Unit data after this time, the Chairman requested that you submit a Low and Negligible Risk (LNR) ethics application form to the Ethics Committee, and a Site Specific Assessment (SSA) application to the Research Governance Officer. Both forms are available on the NSW on-line forms website; [www.ethicsform.org/au](http://www.ethicsform.org/au).

Please include a data collection form with your application, so that the Ethics Committee can assess the type of data being collected. Ethics approval for this application will then provide ongoing approval for collection of data for a period of 5 years.

I note that this request was also made by the former Chair of the Ethics Committee in December 2010 (please see copy of correspondence attached). I urge you to undertake this application in order to formalise arrangements for collection, use and publication of this important data.

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you would like more information on this matter.

Yours sincerely,

**Virginia Turner**  
Executive Officer  
SLHN Human Research Ethics Committee – CRGH