

**Advisory Committee on  
Assisted Reproductive Technology**

Research involving  
Human Gametes and Embryos

**Response form**

# How to have your say

Your feedback can help ACART ensure the updated guidelines for human reproductive research are fit for purpose. ACART welcomes your views on the ethics of human reproductive research.

Please take this opportunity to have your say. You may give feedback on your own behalf or as a member of an organisation. You can contribute your views in any of these ways:

1. completing the Citizen Space [link](https://consult.health.govt.nz/acart/research-involving-human-gametes-and-embryo) through ACART’s or the Ministry of Health’s webpage

2. emailing a completed feedback form (at the end of this document) or your comments to [acart@moh.govt.nz](mailto:acart@moh.govt.nz)

3. posting a completed feedback form (at the end of this document) or your comments to:

ACART Secretariat

Ethics team

PO Box 5013

Wellington 6145.

## Publication of feedback

We may publish all submissions or a summary of submissions on ACART’s website. Please let us know if you do not want your submission published.

## Official Information Act requests – name and contact details

In line with guidance from the Ombudsman, standard procedure of Manatū Hauora / the Ministry of Health (the Ministry) is to not release the name and contact details of any submitter who has given feedback in their private capacity (ie, not in a professional capacity or on behalf of an organisation) and who has requested that their personal information not be published by ticking the relevant boxes on the feedback form (or by making such a request in writing).

Where a person has given feedback on behalf of an organisation, the Ministry will release the name and contact details of the submitter and the organisation unless there are other reasons for withholding the information under the Official Information Act 1982. If you consider that we should withhold your or your organisation’s name and/or contact details under the Official Information Act 1982, please make this clear on your feedback form, or other method of submitting, noting your reasons.

For more guidance on information released under the Official Information Act 1982, visit the Ombudsman’s website at: [ombudsman.parliament.nz/resources-and-publications](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz/resources-and-publications).

**The closing date for feedback is 31 March 2023.**

Question 1: Research on viable embryos

* + - 1. Do you think that research on viable human embryos should be permitted?

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Yes |  | Yes, but only in certain circumstances |  | No |  |

Please explain your answer.

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* + - 1. What are the possible risks and/or harms that need to be considered with research on viable human embryos? How can these risks and/or harms be addressed?

Comment

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* + - 1. Are there ethical issues specific to research on viable human embryos that you would like to comment on?

Comment

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Question 2: Standard clinical research

* + - 1. Should standard clinical research be permitted?

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|  | Yes |  | Yes, but only in certain circumstances |  | No |  |

Please explain your answer.

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* + - 1. What are the possible risks and/or harms that need to be considered with standard clinical research? How can these risks and/or harms be addressed?

Comment

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* + - 1. Are there ethical or other matters specific to standard clinical research that you would like to comment on?

Comment

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Question 3: Innovative clinical research

* + - 1. Should innovative clinical research be permitted?

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|  | Yes |  | Yes, but only in certain circumstances |  | No |  |

Please explain your answer.

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* + - 1. What are the possible risks and/or harms that need to be considered with innovative clinical research? How can these risks and/or harms be addressed?

Comment

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* + - 1. Are there ethical or other matters specific to innovative clinical research that you would like to comment on?

Comment

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Question 4: Non-clinical research using donated gametes

* + - 1. Should non-clinical research using donated **gametes** be permitted?

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|  | Yes |  | Yes, but only in certain circumstances |  | No |  |

Please explain your answer.

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* + - 1. What are the possible risks and/or harms that need to be considered with non-clinical research with gametes? How can these risks and/or harms be addressed?

Comment

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* + - 1. Are there ethical or other matters specific to non-clinical research with gametes that you would like to comment on?

Comment

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Question 5: Non-clinical research using donated viable human embryos

* + - 1. Should non-clinical research using donated viable human **embryos** be permitted?

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|  | Yes |  | Yes, but only in certain circumstances |  | No |  |

Please explain your answer.

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* + - 1. What are the possible risks and/or harms that need to be considered with non-clinical research with viable human embryos? How can these risks and/or harms be addressed?

Comment

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* + - 1. Are there ethical or other matters specific to non-clinical research with viable human embryos that you would like to comment on?

Comment

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Question 6: Non-clinical research on gametes that creates embryos

* + - 1. Should non-clinical research **on** **gametes** that **creates embryos** be permitted?

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|  | Yes |  | Yes, but only in certain circumstances |  | No |  |

Please explain your answer.

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* + - 1. What are the possible risks and/or harms that need to be considered with non‑clinical research on gametes that creates embryos? How can these risks and/or harms be addressed?

Comment

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* + - 1. Are there ethical or other matters specific to non-clinical research on gametes that creates embryos that you would like to comment on?

Comment

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Question 7: Non-clinical research with embryos that were created specifically for research

* + - 1. Should non-clinical research be permitted with **embryos that were created specifically for** such research?

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|  | Yes |  | Yes, but only in certain circumstances |  | No |  |

Please explain your answer.

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* + - 1. What are the possible risks and/or harms that need to be considered with non-clinical research with embryos that were created specifically for such research? How can these risks and/or harms be addressed?

Comment

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* + - 1. Are there ethical or other matters specific to non-clinical research with embryos that were created specifically for such research that you would like to comment on?

Comment

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Question 8: Non-clinical research with cloned human embryos

* + - 1. Should non-clinical research with cloned human embryos be permitted?

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|  | Yes |  | Yes, but only in certain circumstances |  | No |  |

Please explain your answer.

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* + - 1. What are the possible risks and/or harms that need to be considered with non‑clinical research with cloned human embryos? How can these risks and/or harms be addressed?

Comment

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* + - 1. Are there ethical or other matters specific to non-clinical research with cloned human embryos that you would like to comment on?

Comment

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Question 9: Non-clinical research using human blastoids

* + - 1. Should non-clinical research using human blastoids be permitted?

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|  | Yes |  | Yes, but only in certain circumstances |  | No |  |

Please explain your answer.

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* + - 1. What are the possible risks and/or harms that need to be considered with non‑clinical research with human blastoids? How can these risks and/or harms be addressed?

Comment

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* + - 1. Are there ethical or other matters specific to non-clinical research with human blastoids that you would like to comment on?

Comment

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Question 10: Non-clinical research with human-hybrid embryos

* + - 1. Should non-clinical research with human-hybrid embryos be permitted?

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|  | Yes |  | Yes, but only in certain circumstances |  | No |  |

Please explain your answer.

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* + - 1. What are the possible risks and/or harms that need to be considered with non-clinical research with human-hybrid embryos? How can these risks and/or harms be addressed?

Comment

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* + - 1. Are there ethical or other matters specific to non-clinical research with human-hybrid embryos that you would like to comment on?

Comment

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Question 11: Genetic modification of human embryos as part of research

* + - 1. Should genetic modification of human embryos as part of research be permitted?

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|  | Yes |  | Yes, but only in certain circumstances |  | No |  |

Please explain your answer.

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* + - 1. What are the possible risks and/or harms that need to be considered with research that genetically modifies human embryos? How can these risks and/or harms be addressed?

Comment

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* + - 1. Are there ethical or other matters specific to research that genetically modifies human embryos that you would like to comment on?

Comment

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Question 12: Should genetic modification of human embryonic stem cells be permitted?

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|  | Yes |  | Yes, but only in certain circumstances |  | No |  |

Please explain your answer.

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#### Te Ao Māori considerations on genetic editing

Question 13: Does your whānau or hapū or do you yourself have an opinion on genetic editing that you can share?

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Question 14: Sir Hirini Mead created the Tikanga Test to seek solutions for controversial decisions, including genetic modification. If you apply your own tikanga to the test, what are your opinions?

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Question 15: Do you think there should be any changes to the current prohibitions in the HART Act? If so, what are those changes and why are they needed?

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Question 16: Embryos and gametes to be donated for training

* + - 1. Should people be permitted to donate embryos and gametes for training purposes?

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|  | Yes |  | Yes, but only in certain circumstances |  | No |  |

Please explain your answer.

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* + - 1. What are the possible risks and/or harms that need to be considered with training on donated gametes and embryos? How can these risks and/or harms be addressed?

Comment

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* + - 1. Are there ethical or other matters specific to training on donated gametes and embryos that you would like to comment on?

Comment

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Question 17: Do you have other general comments on human reproductive research?

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# Feedback form

Please provide your contact details below.

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| Name |  |
| If this feedback is on behalf of an organisation, please name the organisation |  |
| Please provide a brief description of the organisation (if applicable) |  |
| Address/email |  |
| Interest in this topic (eg, consumer, health professional, researcher, member of public) |  |

Feedback as an individual. Are you:

Male  Female  Another gender

Would you like to make an oral submission (either in person or using electronic communications)?

Yes  No

Which age group do you belong to?

13 to 24 years  25 to 44 years  45 to 64 years  65+ years

What is your ethnicity? (Tick all you identify with.)

NZ European  Māori  Pacific peoples

Asian  Other

#### Privacy

We may publish all submissions, or a summary of submissions on the Ministry of Health’s website. If you are submitting as an individual, we will automatically remove your personal details and any identifiable information. You can also choose to have your personal details withheld if your submission is requested under the Official Information Act 1982.

If you do not want your submission published on the Ministry’s website, please tick this box:

Do not publish this submission.

Your submission will be subject to requests made under the Official Information Act. If you want your personal details removed from your submission, please tick this box:

Remove my personal details from responses to Official Information Act requests.

If your submission contains commercially sensitive information that you do not wish to be released, please tick this box:

This submission contains commercially sensitive information.