



## Release and Dissemination of Research Results and Findings

Effective Date: October 1994	Policy Number: 07 RRI 1411
Applicability / Class: CNDH / O	Department: Administration
Date of Review: September 2023	Approval: <i>Charles Grim</i>

I. Purpose:

The Chickasaw Nation has the inherent sovereign authority to govern itself and to provide for the health and general well-being of the Chickasaw people. In this respect, the Chickasaw Nation shall administer its system of health service delivery according to the highest standards of ethics and professional conduct to ensure the best possible service to the people receiving health services under such authority.

Furthermore, the Chickasaw Nation recognizes the value of medical, social and physical science research to the Chickasaw Nation, Chickasaw people, and to society in general. Therefore, the Chickasaw Nation may from time to time participate in research projects that are of value to the interests of the Chickasaw Nation, the Chickasaw people, and the Native Americans and Alaska Natives it serves.

The Chickasaw Nation has instituted an Institutional Review Board (IRB) to carry out the primary responsibility of reviewing and approving or denying any proposed living human subjects research. The IRB will operate under the coordination of the Chickasaw Nation Department of Health (CNDH).

II. Mission:

The mission of the Chickasaw Nation is to enhance the overall quality of life of the Chickasaw people. The CNDH meets this mission by providing exceptional customer experience that focuses on quality, safety and the promotion of health.

III. Policy:

The CNDH shall assure that all results and findings of duly approved research are reviewed and cleared by the CNDH IRB prior to any public release,

dissemination or presentation of the same (07 RRI 1410). It is specifically acknowledged and agreed by the parties that any and all research data and findings as generated and derived by virtue of the Investigator Agreement and research project shall be and sole ownership of same shall be retained and vested with the Chickasaw Nation.

Any and all use of data and findings, including genomic data, generated from research conducted within the Chickasaw Nation requires prior review and approval by the CNDH IRB. This includes all secondary use of any data collected for research purposes.

A. Definitions:

For the purpose of this policy, definitions of term(s) found in the standing operating procedures (SOP) have the definition(s) set out therein, unless otherwise specified below:

1. Publications - All written, electronic or web-based reports, papers, manuscripts, abstracts, and journal or book articles based on research conducted within the Chickasaw Nation. Oral, poster or PowerPoint presentations are also included in this definition and covered by this policy, as are academic treatises such as theses and dissertations.

B. Associated Document(s):

1. EXEPS 01 EC 3000 01 02 – Tribal Regulations for Research
2. The Joint Commission – Patient Rights and Organizational Ethics, Patient and Family Education and Responsibilities, Leadership and Management of Information sections
3. [07 RRI 1410 - Institutional Review Board](#)
4. Department of Health and Human Services, Indian Health Service Circular NO. 88-3
5. Cherokee Nation Institutional Review Board Publication Policy
6. Veteran's Health Administration Handbook 1200.19 and 1200.05
7. Navajo Nation Human Research Code
8. National Congress of American Indians Policy Research Center, "Research Regulation in American Indian/Alaska Native Communities: a Guide to Reviewing Research Studies" (P. Sahota)

C. Process:

1. Upon the completion of all duly approved research or data collection; the results, findings and conclusions shall be submitted to the CNDH IRB for review prior to publication.
2. Review and approval of publications: upon receipt of draft publications of research results and findings, the IRB chair shall submit the draft

publication to an ad hoc publication sub-committee of designated persons, which may include the chair and the secretary of health.

- a. Proposed publications will be assigned for review to an ad hoc sub-committee of at least two persons appointed by the chair. These persons may or may not be CNDH IRB members or employees of the Chickasaw Nation. They should have knowledge relevant to the research field of study, to the relevant CNHD IRB policies, and have no conflict of interest.
  - b. Proposed publications or presentations shall be submitted to the CNDH IRB at least two months prior to the date of publication or presentation. Exceptions to the deadline for submission may be granted at the discretion of the chair or secretary of health on a case-by-case basis.
  - c. The CNDH IRB shall be allowed forty-five days to review any publication and reply to the investigator. Implied or passive approval is not permitted.
  - d. The CNDH IRB will review for technical content and validity, organization of content, general readability, adherence to established policy, and assurance that the publication is high quality, reflecting creditably on the Chickasaw Nation.
  - e. Reviewers may offer recommendations or suggestions or request clarifications, alterations, or corrections.
  - f. Reviewers may disapprove, defer approval if significant revisions are recommended, or may approve with contingencies if recommendations are minor.
  - g. Conflicting recommendations or significant disagreement shall be discussed by the reviewer and the chair. The chair may request further discussion with the full IRB.
  - h. Decisions of the publication sub-committee will be communicated to the author/presenter via letter from the IRB chair.
  - i. In instances where publication is not approved, author/presenter shall have the opportunity to discuss reasons for disapproval and recommendations with the IRB chair and publication review sub-committee members.
3. Dissemination of findings: the CNDH IRB approval must be granted for each specific public release, dissemination, or presentation of the results, findings, and conclusions regardless of whether or not the Chickasaw Nation is mentioned by name. The CNDH IRB may determine the degree to which the Chickasaw Nation is identified or acknowledged in any particular publication or presentation.

- a. Per policy, all presentation or publication of data or results from approved research projects must be reviewed and receive prior approval by the CNDH IRB.
- b. Researchers should inform the CNDH IRB when invitations are received to present or participate in any forum.
- c. The CNDH partnering divisions should be involved as much as possible in making presentations.
- d. To extent feasible, at least one CNDH partner actively involved in the article should be a co-author.
- e. Researchers should develop one page summaries of relevant results and policy implications related to research activities.
4. The CNDH IRB shall determine that no individual patient can be identified in the results, findings, or conclusions and that the rights and welfare of research participants are protected.
5. The CNDH IRB shall determine that publications are consistent with the goals, intents and interests of the Chickasaw Nation and its citizens, and publications represent the Chickasaw Nation without unfair stigma or harm to the overall community, culture or heritage of the Chickasaw Nation.
6. The CNDH IRB has the authority to give final approval or recommend referral to higher level of authority.
7. Multi-tribal data collected within the Chickasaw Nation should not be presented as representative of those tribes, only as representative of the individual participants.
8. Title of presentations or individual slides should be clear as to whom and what is being represented; data should not be generalized to an entire tribe, only to the individual participants in the research project.
9. This policy does not apply to internal Chickasaw Nation presentations for the purpose of teaching, quality assurance or improvement, or non-research publications or presentations.

IV. Reference(s):  
RESERVED