



INTRODUCTORY ONLINE MODULE ON SOUTH AFRICAN RESEARCH ETHICS GUIDANCE

A South African national training module has been developed on the [TRREE](#) online platform to provide a resource that contains the essential requirements (i.e., national laws and ethics guidelines) relating to the ethical conduct of research in the South African context. The module also contains links to relevant documents and websites for more advanced learning. The module is linked to a quiz which generates a certificate upon successful completion of the online module.

What is Training and Resources in Research Ethics Evaluation (TRREE)?

[TRREE](#) provides basic online training in ethics and health research regulation. It was specifically developed for and in partnership with collaborators from African countries and has been extended to several European countries. The primary aim of [TRREE](#) is to provide introductory research ethics training and capacity building in research ethics evaluation and to increase existing capacity in African and European countries. The [TRREE](#) platform was initially sponsored by the European Developing Countries Clinical Trials Partnership ([EDCTP](#)) but has now attracted modules sponsored by several other major international funders, including the US NIH Fogarty International Centre, the European Network of Research Ethics Committees, the Swiss National Science Foundation, the South African National Research Foundation and others. [TRREE](#) is designed to be accessible to users across Africa some of whom may be limited by low bandwidth connectivity.

Target Audience

The South African module was written for a wide ranging audience including researchers working or intending to work in South Africa, members of RECs and students conducting health or social science research in South Africa. The module is introductory and provides introductory yet detailed exposure to South African research ethics and health guidance and legislation.

Accessing the South African TRREE module

The module is available free of charge at <http://elearning.trree.org/> but (free) registration with TRREE is required. Registration enables free access to all other current and future online TRREE modules which include: *Introduction to Research, Research Ethics Evaluation, Informed Consent, Good Clinical Practice, HIV Vaccine Trials, and Adolescent Involvement in HIV Prevention Trials*. In addition there is a growing list of modules specific to other African countries such as Burkina Faso, Cote d'Ivoire, Cameroon, Mozambique, Nigeria, Senegal, Tanzania and European countries such as Germany, Switzerland, Latvia,

Medical Education Partnership Initiative (MEPI)

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Lithuania, Romania and soon Portugal. TRREE is supported by the World Medical Association and is now also being introduced in Asia (Hong Kong, Taiwan) and South America (Brazil).

The South Africa module was written by Nivedhna Singh of UKZN's Medical Education Partnership Initiative (MEPI) programme, with expert advice from Dr Ann Strode, (UKZN) & Dr Joanna Bourke-Martignoni (University of Neuchâtel, Switzerland). The project was supervised by Prof D Wassenaar (UKZN) and Prof D Sprumont (University of Neuchâtel, Switzerland). The South African module was sponsored by a Medical Education Partnership Initiative from the Fogarty International Centre of the US National Institutes of Health FIC Grant number 1R24TW008863 to the University of KwaZulu-Natal. PI: Prof. U Lalloo.

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