

BEST PRACTICES FOR HEALTH RESEARCH INVOLVING CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS

Genetic, Pharmaceutical, Longitudinal Studies and Palliative Care Research

Final Consultation

January 27, 2012

The project for the development of *Best Practices for Health Research Involving Children and Adolescents* was launched in 2008. The goal of the project was to assist health researchers working with paediatric populations and to assist research ethics boards. As such, the *Best Practices* were developed to provide additional guidance to the *Tri-Council Policy Statement – Ethical Conduct for Research Involving Humans* (TCPS) on some important issues that are specific to the paediatric health research community.

Key partners for the project include the CIHR Ethics Office and Institute of Human Development Child and Youth Health, Health Canada, the Maternal, Infant, Child and Youth Research Network, and McGill's Centre of Genomics and Policy. The McGill Centre of Genomics and Policy has played a major role in drafting the *Best Practices* document, as well as Dr. Glenn Griener from the University of Alberta.

The project is now nearing completion. Feedback received from the consultations at regional health sciences centres, key academic conferences and from groups and individuals with expertise in ethics and in research with children, helped to improve the document significantly.

The December 2010 publication of the 2nd edition of the *Tri-Council Policy Statement* (TCPS 2) provided further opportunity to revise the *Best Practices* draft and ensure its harmonization with TCPS 2.

This final draft is a reflection of these favorable circumstances. Its authors are now inviting you to take part in the last round of consultation. Please send your comments before **February 29, 2012**, directly to Bestpractices-children@cihr-irsc.gc.ca