

From: Samela Husakovic <s.husakovic@unsw.edu.au>
Sent: Tuesday, 2 January 2024 14:32
To: cleanair@cleanairtas.com
Cc: DVCR RECS Human Ethics
Subject: RE: URGENT complaint - Human Ethics, Conduct and Integrity

Dear Clive,

Thank you for your email.

I will look into this matter and be in touch, noting there have been previous communications between yourself, the Chief Investigator and Manager, Human Research Ethics regarding your raised concerns.

Best regards,
Samela

Samela Husakovic
Acting Director, [Research Ethics & Compliance Support](#)
UNSW SYDNEY 2052
T: 02 9065 8520

UNSW is located on the unceded territory of the Bedegal (Kensington campus), Gadigal (City and Paddington Campuses) and Ngunnawal peoples (UNSW Canberra) who are the [Traditional Owners](#) of the lands where each campus of UNSW is situated.



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From: cleanair@cleanairtas.com <cleanair@cleanairtas.com>
Sent: Sunday, December 31, 2023 2:09 PM
To: Samela Husakovic <s.husakovic@unsw.edu.au>
Subject: URGENT complaint - Human Ethics, Conduct and Integrity
Importance: High

You don't often get email from cleanair@cleanairtas.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Acting Director RECS
UNSW Conduct and Integrity
Research Ethics & Compliance Support
UNSW Sydney
Sydney NSW 2052 Australia
s.husakovic@unsw.edu.au (02 9065 8520)

Dear Samela Husakovic,

Re: [2023/04 BREATHE Study](#) – Kirby Institute

Research Complaint - More than low risk research and Integrity

I wish to lodge an urgent formal complaint in relation to the randomised clinical BREATHE Study using surgical masks to control respiratory outcomes during planned burning or bushfire.

My complaint is in relation to i) immediate and/or, ii) long-term harm caused to study participants already compromised with asthma, emphysema, chronic bronchitis, or bronchiectasis.

Without warning (depending on uncontrollable exposure levels to wood smoke) serious immediate harm can result to surgical mask participants, even death. Further, it is possible for harm to occur many years after the trial has concluded as a result of deliberately breathing wood smoke.

I have sought to have this matter dealt with urgently by the relevant school – Prof Raina MacIntyre

I am still waiting for a response from Human Research Manager – Leonne Thompson, even though I have stressed the urgency in this matter. This relates to inaction.

I am asking for the Surgical Mask arm of this study to be terminated immediately.

I still maintain; however, it is unethical to lock compromised people inside so that deliberate burning can continue.

Depending on the type of building, little protection may be afforded to this already endangered group.

For your convenience, please find further details attached.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Thank you.

Yours faithfully,

Clive M. Stott
cleanair@cleanairtas.com