

Dear Colleague

My name is Mary Kasule working as a Senior Research Officer for the Council of Health Research and Development (COHRED) www.cohred.org. I am kindly requesting you as the Administrator or Chairperson of your Research Ethics Committee (REC) to please set aside a few minutes to respond to this brief survey. The aim of the survey is to solicit your opinions about a question that was recently raised on GHDonline (www.ghdonline.org) **Aug. 12, 2013 –Aug. 16, 2013 as to “whether RECs charging ethical clearance fees for access to ethics reviews is ethical and what is the process for clearance in your country?”** Details of the background and objective of sending out this survey are included in the attached survey. Your answers will help the research community better understand whether it is ‘essential’ for the RECs to charge a fee for access to research ethics reviews; how RECs can ensure that the process remains ethical and does not compromise the integrity of the process of ethics review and monitoring of approved research. We appreciate your assistance and look forward to receiving your response.

If you have any questions about this survey, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely



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