

# WHEN DOES RESEARCH NEED ETHICS REVIEW?



**All research with people** must be reviewed before its start by a research ethics committee to ensure it gets conducted ethically and that participants are protected.

## RESEARCH

Any biomedical, behavioral, epidemiological or social science activity that systematically collects and analyzes data to produce generalizable knowledge.



## WITH HUMAN BEINGS

It uses biological samples or data that can individually identify people, or people are exposed to observation, intervention or other interaction directly or by modifying their environment.



## WHAT DOES NOT NEED ETHICS REVIEW?



Research that does not involve people (e.g., if it uses public data that does not identify them)



Public health activities that involve people but are not research (e.g., if they do not aim to produce generalizable knowledge, but to prevent or control diseases for the direct benefit of the population, such as surveillance).



If there are doubts about whether an activity needs review, the ethics committee should be the one to decide.

