# Tips on Clearing Ethics

## Preparation/Organization

1. Number the pages
2. Label the appendices
3. If the answer is yes to any of the questions in the project summary, this **MUST** be addressed in the project description.
4. Have someone who doesn’t know anything about your study read your application.

## Consistency

1. “Cutting and pasting” from a previous application or from another person’s application can lead to inconsistencies.
2. Check for consistency in your application. Is the purpose of your study the same in the “summary of the project” as it is in the poster and the consent form?
3. Pick a title and stay with it. (e.g.) “The primary investigator will be conducting the interview… Only the principal researcher will have access to the data… If you have questions, please contact the researcher.”

## Full Information

1. Include evidence of permission to use instruments.
2. Include correspondence related to access
3. Use the template for the informed consent form.
4. Clearly and fully describe the recruitment protocol.

## Minimal Risk

1. Minimal risk is described as “Research in which the probability and magnitude of possible harms implied by participation in the research is no greater that those encountered by participants in the aspects of their everyday life that relate to the research.”
2. Address the risk and benefits of participation –there are seldom no risks or benefits.
3. Definitely avoid minimizing risk to participants in your application.

## Practitioner –Research

1. Practitioner-research is conducted by an individual who assumes a dual role – both as a practitioner or provider of services (e.g., clinical nursing or instructional) and as a scientific researcher.
2. TCPS2 refers to “trust and dependency”.
3. “It is incumbent on the researcher to consider his/her role in the research, and to demonstrate how the possibility of participant coercion will be obviated.” (UM guidelines). The speaker suggested that an instructor wishing to do research with students that are currently being taught by that instructor could wait until the course is over as a method of mitigating coercion.