VSC Research Ethics Committee (REC) Annual Report

1. Introduction

- **Purpose of the Report**: Briefly describe the purpose of the annual report.
- **Reporting Period**: Specify the period covered by the report (e.g., January 1, 2024, to December 31, 2024).

2. Membership

- **Current Members**: List all current members, including their roles (Chair, Deputy Chair, etc.).
 - o Name
 - o Role
 - o Term Start Date
 - o Term End Date
- **Changes in Membership**: Detail any changes in membership during the reporting period.
 - New Members
 - Departing Members
 - o Role Changes

3. Meetings

- **Meeting Schedule**: Provide an overview of the meeting schedule and frequency.
- Attendance Record: Include an attendance record for each meeting.
 - Date of Meeting
 - o Members Present
 - Members Absent

4. Review Activities

- **Summary of Applications Reviewed**: Provide a summary of the applications reviewed during the reporting period.
 - Total Number of Applications
 - o Breakdown by Risk Level (Minimum Risk, High Risk)
 - Breakdown by Decision (Approved, Approved with Modifications, Deferred, Rejected)
- **Key Decisions and Outcomes**: Highlight significant decisions and outcomes from the reviews.
 - Notable Approvals
 - Major Rejections
 - Significant Modifications Required

5. Appeals and Complaints

- Summary of Appeals: Provide a summary of any appeals received and their outcomes.
 - Total Number of Appeals
 - Outcomes (Upheld, Dismissed, Pending)
- **Summary of Complaints**: Provide a summary of any complaints received and their outcomes.
 - o Total Number of Complaints
 - o Outcomes (Resolved, Unresolved, Pending)

6. Adverse Events and Incidents

- **Summary of Adverse Events**: Provide a summary of any adverse events or incidents reported.
 - o Total Number of Adverse Events
 - Nature of Events
 - Actions Taken

7. Procedural Changes

- **Changes to Guidelines and Procedures**: Detail any changes made to the REC guidelines and procedures during the reporting period.
 - Description of Changes
 - o Rationale for Changes
 - o Implementation Date

8. Training and Development

- **Training Programs Conducted**: Provide an overview of training programs conducted for REC members.
 - Training Topics
 - Dates
 - Attendance
- Future Training Plans: Outline any planned training programs for the upcoming year.

9. Monitoring and Compliance

- **Ongoing Monitoring Activities**: Describe the monitoring activities conducted to ensure compliance with ethical standards.
 - Number of Projects Monitored
 - Compliance Issues Identified
 - Actions Taken

10. Emerging Ethical Issues

- **New Ethical Challenges**: Discuss any new ethical challenges or issues that emerged during the reporting period.
 - Description of Issues

- Impact on REC Activities
- Proposed Solutions

11. Overall Function and Effectiveness

- **Assessment of REC Function**: Provide an assessment of the overall function and effectiveness of the REC.
 - o Strengths
 - o Areas for Improvement
 - o Recommendations for the Future

12. Conclusion

- **Summary of Key Points**: Summarize the key points from the report.
- Acknowledgements: Acknowledge the contributions of REC members and other stakeholders.

13. Appendices

- Appendix A: Detailed List of Applications Reviewed
- **Appendix B**: Attendance Records
- Appendix C: Training Materials
- Appendix D: Any Other Relevant Documents