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| The CEO and the research misconduct enquiryIf the CEO decides to proceed to a research misconduct inquiry, he will make this decision known in writing to those making the allegation, the person who is the subject of the allegation, the designated person, and any other parties as required under any agreement, such as funding bodies and collaborating institutions. In making a decision to proceed to an internal institutional research misconduct inquiry or an independent external research misconduct inquiry, the CEO will take into consideration the advice received from the institution's designated person. The CEO will also take into account the potential consequences for the accused, the accuser, other parties and institutions in the event that the allegation(s) were to be upheld, and the need to maintain public confidence in research. If, in his judgment, these are likely to be serious, the CEO will establish an independent external research misconduct inquiry. In the event that the CEO makes a decision to conduct an internal institutional research misconduct inquiry, and later discovers the potential consequences of the allegation(s) are more serious than originally anticipated, it may be necessary to disband the internal inquiry and make new arrangements for an external independent research misconduct inquiry. Following the inquiry, the CEO will inform all relevant parties of the research misconduct inquiry findings and the actions taken by Alfred Health. Relevant parties may include affected staff, research collaborators including those at other institutions, funding organisations, journal editors, and professional registration bodies. The public record, including publications, may need to be corrected if research misconduct has affected the research findings and their dissemination. Penalties may be imposed if there is a finding of research misconduct. These include: * dismissal (of staff)
* suspension of research activities
* cancellation of research activities

The findings of an independent, external research misconduct inquiry will be made available to the public. |  |