Do You Need a Certificate of Confidentiality?

An investigator may obtain a certificate of confidentiality in order to further protect the confidentiality of subjects. Certificates of confidentiality are most appropriate when research involves data collection of sensitive information.

More information regarding certificates of confidentiality is provided in the Policies and Procedures Manual: http://www.utexas.edu/research/rsc/human_subjects/forms/irb_policies_and_procedures.pdf

Contact your IRB Program Coordinator if you have any questions.

Informed Consent Document Templates Have Been Updated

Consent Templates have been updated and are available on the “Forms” page of the IRB website: http://www.utexas.edu/research/rsc/human_subjects/forms.html

Update IRB Contact Information in Informed Consent Documents

To reflect the change in IRB leadership, be sure that your informed consent documents are updated for your protocols. To address, “Whom to contact with questions concerning your right as a research participant,” please use the following language: “For questions about your rights or dissatisfaction with any part of this study, you can contact, anonymously if you wish, the Institutional Review Board by phone at (512) 471-8871 or email at orsc@uts.cc.utexas.edu.” Always use the templates and forms provided on the ORS website to ensure you are using the current version with your submissions.

A Friendly Reminder on Training

The IRB requires all investigators and research personnel involved in human subjects research to complete the Collaborative Institutional Training Initiative (CITI) program. Visit the ORS website for additional information: http://www.utexas.edu/research/rsc/human_subjects/training/index.html

Remember to select either “Social/Behavioral Research Course” (Group 1) OR “Biomedical Research” (Group 4) as the curriculum.

Quality Improvement Visits

The Association for the Accreditation of Human Research Protection Programs (AAHRPP) expects the ORS to conduct Quality Improvement (QI) Visits to assess educational needs of the research community.

You may be contacted to discuss an open protocol. The visit is to provide any necessary education and to answer any questions Investigators may have about the IRB process. The visit lasts approximately one hour.

Upcoming Educational Workshop

The Office of Research Support hosts frequent educational sessions and workshops to assist you with working with the IRB. The next session is:

Date: April 5, 2012
Topic: Step-by-Step: How to Write & Submit an IRB Proposal & Application

For more information and registration, visit http://www.utexas.edu/research/rsc/news/