Announcements

As a part of the Northwestern University IRB Office’s initiative to share timely resources and information with the research community, the IRB Bulletin is released at the beginning of each month and contains relevant updates from the IRB Office. You can also find the IRB Bulletin posted on the IRB News & Announcements webpage. Please keep reading for this month’s updates.

Congrats, Grads! Transitioning Student Research Projects
Before a student researcher graduates from Northwestern University, the Principal Investigator (PI) must determine whether the student will continue to be engaged in Human Research after leaving Northwestern. Now that students have already graduated, PIs must review their study to determine whether the student is still engaged in the research.

- If the student continues to be engaged, the study PI should contact the IRB Office to discuss the next steps, which may include establishing a Reliance Agreement to cover the student’s continued involvement.
- If the student is no longer engaged in the research, the PI must submit a Modification to remove the student from the study.
- If the study is complete, the PI must close the study following the directions on the Continuing Review & Closure Page.

As a friendly reminder, any study currently open in eIRB+ is subject to routine Post-Approval Monitoring.

Enhancing Research Communication
The IRB Office’s Fostering Accessibility and Inclusivity in Research (FAIR) team would like to share the Northwestern Global Marketing and Communications Inclusive Language Guide as an available resource for drafting communications.
Recognizing Juneteenth

Did you know that Northwestern University began observing Juneteenth as an annual University holiday in 2022, just one year after the United States and Illinois set it as a permanent federal and state holiday?

- Check out the Northwestern University Black Professionals Network’s Juneteenth Resource Guide compiled by African American Studies Librarian Kathleen Bethel.
- Read about Assessing Multiple Factors Affecting Minority Participation in Clinical Trials: Development of the Clinical Trials Participation Barriers Survey and Discrimination and Medical Mistrust in a Racially and Ethnically Diverse Sample of California Adults.
- Looking for a way to celebrate Juneteenth? Consider attending Evanston’s Fifth Annual Juneteenth Celebration.

The IRB Office will be closed on Wednesday, June 19 in observance of Juneteenth and will resume regular business operations on Thursday, June 20.

UPDATED DOCUMENTS

The following were updated and are now available on the Policies & Guidance page:
- Human Research Protection Program Plan (HRP-101)
  - Updated Emergency Response and Preparedness Plan section
UPCOMING IRB BROWN BAG

University Compliance as a Partner

July 17, 2024 | 12:00 – 1:00 PM

REGISTER HERE

Join us as Lucas Christain, Associate Director of University Compliance, outlines the intentionality behind recent changes in the Northwestern University Compliance Office and how those changes position this small team to partner with the many compliance owners at our institution.

Please visit our Events page for details and registration information on this and upcoming Brown Bag sessions.

STAFF SPOTLIGHT

Meet Angela Baumgartner!

Hi! I have been a member of the IRB Office Compliance team for 5 years. I support the biomedical and social and behavioral research communities with navigating regulatory requirements and best practices for conducting human research. I also volunteer as a Well-being Champion because I am passionate about promoting well-being practices and resources for my IRB and Office for Research colleagues. Before joining the IRB Office, I was a
clinical research regulatory coordinator who supported various departments and investigators throughout the university. In total, I've been at Northwestern for over 10 years specializing in human research regulations. Before that, I got my start in research in wet laboratories studying cancer cell signaling and plant genetics. Outside of work, I enjoy nature, biking, trying new food, and spending time with my dog and cats. A fun fact about me is that I moved to Chicago from my small farm town to work at Northwestern and have loved the city ever since!

Please use the Northwestern University IRB Office Website as your primary source of information and resources on human research protections.