

## IRB Bulletin: November 2024

### Announcements

As a part of the Northwestern University IRB Office's initiative to share timely resources and information with the research community, the IRB publishes the Bulletin at the beginning of each month, which contains relevant updates from the IRB Office. You can also find the IRB Bulletin on the [IRB News & Announcements webpage](#). Please keep reading for this month's updates.

#### Post-Approval Monitoring Activities and the New Compliance Workspace, OH MY!

Post-Approval Monitoring (PAM) assessments offer a unique, collaborative approach to supporting IRB-approved studies. Designed as an educational tool, PAM assessments aim to strengthen research practices and safeguard the rights and welfare of research participants. By working together with researchers, PAM assessments provide invaluable guidance, tailored resources, and hands-on educational support, ensuring compliance and empowering teams to uphold the highest standards in human research. Discover the different types of PAM assessments and learn how they are conducted by visiting the IRB Office's [Post-Approval Monitoring](#) webpage.

Take a moment to re-familiarize yourself with the suite of PAM checklists on the IRB Office's [Checklists and Worksheets](#) page. These checklists guide PIs and their teams in verifying key study practices, including informed consent, documentation standards, and protocol adherence throughout the study's life cycle. They are designed to proactively identify any areas needing attention, thereby supporting the ethical integrity of research and safeguarding participants.

Set up your study for success! The IRB Office recommends that, after you have assembled your files and folders, but before you start your study, you use the applicable [PAM checklists](#) to ensure your study files are compliant with applicable federal regulations, state laws, and institutional policy from the start.

**Coming Soon! Anticipated in late 2024, compliance activities, including post-approval monitoring self-assessments, will be conducted within the eIRB+ Compliance Workspace. Check out the Upcoming IRB Brown Bag section below to learn more!**



## **UPCOMING IRB BROWN BAG**

### **Streamlining Compliance: The New eIRB+ Compliance Workspace**

November 13, 2024 | 12:00 – 1:00 PM

**[REGISTER HERE](#)**

Join members of the IRB Compliance Team as they demonstrate how to navigate the system and communicate efficiently in the new compliance workspace. To top it off, they will end the session with a Q&A with the entire Compliance Team – bring your questions or send them ahead of time to [irbcompliance@northwestern.edu](mailto:irbcompliance@northwestern.edu).

In preparation for the launch of the new eIRB+ Compliance Workspace, the IRB Office website will be updated, featuring a new webpage dedicated to the system, which will include a step-by-step training manual. No immediate action is required or expected of researchers until they receive a notification

that they have been selected to undergo [Post-Approval Monitoring](#). IRB Compliance Team members will work closely with the research community to ensure a smooth transition to the new system, providing support to researchers selected for routine assessment.

Don't miss out—this is your chance to be among the first to learn about and see the new eIRB+ Compliance Workspace!

In case you missed last month's Brown Bag session, *State of the IRB*, the presentation slides are now available on our [IRB Brown Bag](#) webpage. This session highlighted 2024 IRB Office metric and HRPP accomplishments and upcoming opportunities.

## UPDATED DOCUMENTS

The following was updated and is now available on the [Protocol Templates](#) Page:

- Social-Behavioral Protocol (HRP-583)
  - Edits include using the term 'pregnant persons,' for [inclusivity](#), adding information on data protection laws in the international research section (7.0), and minor formatting and proof-reading changes

The following was updated and is now available on the [Checklists & Worksheets](#) Page:

- IRB Composition (HRP-304)
- Worksheet Short Form Consent Documentation (HRP-317)
- Expediated Review (HRP-313)

The following was updated and is now available on the [SOPs](#) Page:

- Reportable New Information (HRP-024)
- Standing Operating Procedures (HRP-071)

# STAFF SPOTLIGHT

## Meet Logan Clary!

Hello, everyone! I am a Reliance Team member with the Northwestern IRB Office. I will be coming up on 4 years of experience in the reliance field in February 2025. After beginning work with the Virginia Commonwealth University IRB in 2021, I transitioned to Northwestern University in late 2022.



Prior to IRB work, I held some eclectic jobs as a student, including stints in parks and recreation and as a farmhand. It has been wonderful to be part of the Northwestern community, and I enjoy engaging with members of our research community whether they're interacting with reliance for the first or twentieth time! Behind the scenes, I also help to coordinate our internal eIRB+ and reliance workgroups.

My background is in the social sciences, and I am passionate about research and theory in the areas of social reproduction, political economy, and science and technology studies. When I'm not working, I enjoy international travel, hiking and backpacking, reading, automotive work, video games, and dabbling in web development. I also occasionally foster house rabbits.

Please use the [Northwestern University IRB Office Website](#) as your primary source of information and resources on human research protections

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