Northwestern | INSTITUTIONAL REVIEW BOARD

IRB Bulletin: March 2024

ANNOUNCEMENTS

New! Free Interactive Online Training for Writing Participant-Centered Informed Consent

The informed consent process serves to communicate key study information to research participants. A well-written consent document is critical for clear communication during this process, enabled by language that is organized and presented in a way that is easy for the participant to understand. The effort put into writing a participant-centered informed consent facilitates the participant's ability to make an informed decision about participation in a study.

The Office for Human Research Protections (OHRP) has launched a new Interactive Online Training for Writing Participant-Centered Informed Consent. The program offers comprehensive training to help the research community create, design, and review consent forms for research participation in a way that helps participants understand the content and anticipates their needs. The program is free and available on demand. Click here to access.

See also past Northwestern IRB Brown Bag presentations on writing an effective consent document, including Tips for Creating a Consent Document and Crafting Consent.

Research at Northwestern Qatar

The IRB Office supports Human Research Protections Program (HRPP) activities across *all* Northwestern University campuses. Last October, Monica Kane, Northwestern IRB Reliance Analyst Lead, and Nazneen Ali, Northwestern HRPP Education and Communications Specialist, traveled to the Northwestern Qatar (NU-Q) campus to operate as change managers and engage onsite with campus leaders, administrators, researchers, and students. Over three days, they met with over 200 people from NU-Q's three programs – Communications, Journalism & Strategic Communication, and Liberal Arts. They conducted multiple in-person trainings to ensure the success of the Human Research Process Adaptation. A key component of this adaptation is the utilization of the Northwestern IRB's electronic submission system, eIRB+, and adherence to a multi-step process that was new to researchers in Qatar but familiar to researchers in Chicago and Evanston. The Northwestern IRB Office expresses their sincere appreciation to Bianca Simon, Assel Adilova, and the NU-Q community for their hospitality, collaboration, and ongoing support for human research on the Qatar campus.

UPCOMING IRB BROWN BAG

Using the IRB Website as a Research Tool

At this month's Brown Bag, IRB analysts will lead a discussion on using the IRB Website as a Research Tool. Our website includes resources for all facets of research study development, management, and monitoring. This presentation will dive into how to navigate relevant resources and facilitate a seamless study workflow.

Presented by:
Senior IRB Analyst Heather Yates, MPH, CIP;
Senior IRB Compliance Analyst Jennie Thai, BA;
IRB Reliance Analyst Christine Spicer, JD

Wednesday, March 20
12:00 pm - 1:00 pm
REGISTER NOW!

UPDATED DOCUMENTS

The following form and certificate are now available on the Short Forms page:

- Short Form Consent Document - Bosnian
- Certificate of Translation - Bosnian

STAFF SPOTLIGHT

Meet Monica Kane!

Hello! I'm an IRB Reliance Analyst Lead, and over the past four years, I've worked to enhance reliance resources, help the research community navigate reliance considerations, and process reliance reviews in eIRB+. Before joining the IRB Office, I worked at another university and coordinated women's infertility research studies (I've been on both sides of IRB processes!). In 2020, I was the first 100% dedicated reliance position, and now the Reliance Team is five staff members strong! In addition to my reliance responsibilities, I've led efforts to update our website, been part of a group of Well-being Champions hosted by HR, and co-led a human research initiative on our Northwestern Qatar campus. Outside of work, I love being outdoors – camping, hiking, and competing in triathlons!

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

Northwestern University IRB Office | 750 N. Lake Shore Drive, Rubloff Hall, 7th Floor, Chicago, IL 60611