

BUCK-I·RB NEWS

NEWSLETTER ABOUT THE INSTITUTIONAL REVIEW BOARDS AT OSU

JANUARY 2007 Contents

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NEW COURIER SERVICE

The Office of Research is providing a new courier service for researchers submitting materials for IRB, IACUC and IBC review. A courier will make daily rounds delivering materials to the Office of Responsible Research Practices (ORRP). Submissions may be dropped off at any of six campus locations between 8am and 4pm on business days.

The locations are: Agricultural Engineering Building, Bolz Hall, Bricker Hall, Davis Heart & Lung Institute, Graves Hall, and Stillman Hall.

More information is available at:

<http://www.orrp.osu.edu/news/detail.cfm?News=194>.

Please contact Kelli Cyrus at cyrus.17@rf.ohio-state.edu or 614-688-8457 with questions.

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Access to CITI Human Subjects Online Course

In early January, access to the Collaborative IRB Training Initiative (CITI) online training course was temporarily interrupted by the provider, University of Miami. This downtime was necessary to install new computer support and new training modules. Although the program is now working, access has been limited and completion records have been inconsistently forwarded to ORRP.

These difficulties should be resolved shortly. The training site is most easily accessed during evening and weekend hours. Your patience is appreciated while these problems are being resolved.

IRB Assistance for Students

Starting February 1st, staff from the Office of Responsible Research Practices will hold office hours to help graduate and undergraduate student researchers preparing Behavioral and Social Sciences submissions and exemption requests for review. Office hours are intended to help students and their advisors navigate IRB forms, policies, and review procedures.

Assistance will be available on main campus from 1:30 pm to 4:30 pm on Wednesdays and from 10 am to 1pm on Thursdays in Page Hall, Suite 150. This space has been graciously provided by the Undergraduate Research Office. No appointment is necessary.

More information, including the most current scheduling information, is available at: www.orrp.osu.edu. Please contact Cheri Pettey at 614-292-2454 or pettey.6@osu.edu with questions.

Continuing IRB Reviews

The number of last-minute continuing review submissions has decreased thanks to the diligence of investigators and research staff. Meeting the submission deadlines allows adequate time for processing, IRB review, and investigator responses prior to approval expiration dates. The Profile section of the PI Portal can be used to review protocol action history, CITI completion dates, and conflict of interest disclosure status online. The PI portal can be accessed with a Kerberos ID at www.rf.osu.edu. Last month ORRP also switched from paper to electronic notification for IRB continuing review notices and approvals.

Proper Definitions of Race and Ethnicity

Fred Miser, MD
Vice-Chair, Biomedical IRB

Researchers often ask subjects to state their race and ethnicity as part of the demographic profile. As I review applications, I am surprised by the variety of terms investigators use to ask for this information. For example, Hispanic or Latino is not a race, but an ethnicity. To clear this confusion, I point investigators to the **NIH Policy on Reporting Race and Ethnicity Data: Subjects in Clinical Research**, dated August 8, 2001, located at <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-01-053.html>.

The NIH adopted the 1997 Office of Management and Budget (OMB) revised minimum standards for maintaining, collecting, and presenting data on race and ethnicity, found at <http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/fedreg/ombdir15.html>. The US Census also now uses these minimal standards. I encourage investigators to standardize the way they collect this information, and to follow the policy, as briefly outlined below.

The categories in this classification are social-political constructs and should not be interpreted as being anthropological in nature. Using self-reporting or self-identification to collect an individual's data on ethnicity and race, investigators should use two separate questions. Ethnicity information should be collected first, followed by the option to designate more than one race.

To help avoid confusion among subjects' answers, I encourage investigators to provide the following definitions on the questionnaire.

There are two ethnic categories:

- **Hispanic or Latino:** A person of Cuban, Mexican, Puerto Rican, South or Central American, or other Spanish culture or origin, regardless of race. The term "Spanish origin" can also be used in addition to "Hispanic or Latino."

- **Not Hispanic or Latino**

There are five racial categories:

- **American Indian or Alaska Native:** A person having origins in any of the original peoples of North, Central, or South America, and who

maintains tribal affiliations or community attachment.

- **Asian:** A person having origins in any of the original peoples of the Far East, Southeast Asia, or the Indian subcontinent including, for example, Cambodia, China, India, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Pakistan, the Philippine Islands, Thailand, and Vietnam. (Note: Individuals from the Philippine Islands have been recorded as Pacific Islanders in previous data collection strategies.)

- **Black or African**

- **American:** A person having origins in any of the black racial groups of Africa. Terms such as "Haitian" or "Negro" can be used in addition to "Black or African American."

- **Native Hawaiian or**

- **Other Pacific Islander:** A person having origins in any of the original peoples of Hawaii, Guam, Samoa, or other Pacific Islands.

- **White:** A person having origins in any of the original peoples of Europe, the Middle East, or North Africa.

WORKSHOPS

IRB Training for Students

OSU students are encouraged to attend an information session to learn about human subjects research. Training includes the types of studies that have these requirements, procedures and timelines for seeking approvals, and an opportunity to ask questions about specific projects. Sessions are held quarterly.

Winter dates are:

January 31 from 1:30-2:18 pm in 60 Page Hall.

Please pre-register for the event at

<http://www.gradsch.osu.edu/>.

February 2 from 9:30-10:18 am in 60 Page Hall.

Please pre-register for the event at

<http://www.gradsch.osu.edu/>.

February 7 from 5-6 pm in 10 Page Hall.

Please register by email to the Undergraduate Research Office at uro@osu.edu.

For more information on educational sessions, contact Tani Colvin at 614-292-0214 or colvin.51@osu.edu.

Did You Know...?

Investigators play a key role in ensuring a strong program of human research protections. The "fine print" or Principal Investigator's Assurance section of the IRB applications (initial review, continuing review, and final study report) provides a brief overview of investigator responsibilities in conducting human subjects research. Following these policies and procedures and professional practice standards helps ensure the ethical conduct of human subjects research.

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