



News from Your IRB: September 2017

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New IRB Office Hours: Open IRB office hours will now occur on alternating days, either Tuesday 1-4 pm or Wednesday 10 am-1 pm, depending on the week. See detailed schedule [here](#). We encourage you to stop by in-person for one-on-one consultation (no appointment necessary) or to call us during these times. If you do not reach someone immediately, kindly leave a message and we will call you back when we are finished helping other researchers. For one-on-one help at other times, you may schedule an appointment with one of the IRB [staff](#). (East Hill Office Building, EHOB, 395 Pine Tree Rd., Suite 320, accessible via the 82 TCAT bus line.)

Revised Regulations: Changes to the Common Rule, the regulations governing human subjects research, will take effect January 19, 2018. The IRB is in the process of identifying and revising its policies, templates, and procedures as necessary, and will be engaging with the Cornell research community to provide guidance as the compliance deadline approaches. If you would like more information, the [official version](#) of changes to the Common Rule is published in the Federal Register, and a [helpful summary](#) is available from the Council on Governmental Relations (COGR).

New Video Tutorial on Informed Consent: The IRB staff have created a 5 minute [video](#) tutorial reviewing the basics of “informed consent”. We especially encourage those with less IRB experience to review this video before putting together an IRB application, since having incomplete and/or missing consent materials is the main reason for delays in IRB approval. This video explains what is necessary to ensure that your materials satisfy ethical and regulatory requirements.

Encryption Software: Appropriate safeguards should always be in place when researchers collect sensitive information from human subjects. For example, Cornell [Box](#) is recommended over commercial Dropbox, and encryption of data is highly encouraged, especially for those collecting data overseas. Incidents involving ransomware in research (malicious software that encrypts files for ransom) continue to rise and Cornell is now recommending the use of [EZ-Backup](#), a fee-based, automated, remote backup/archive/storage service that automatically

backs up your workstation, and allows you to restore files yourself. For more information, click [here](#).

NIH Policy for Issuing Certificates of Confidentiality (CoC) The NIH has released an updated Certificate of Confidentiality (CoC) policy [NOT-OD-17-109](#) which will go into effect on October 1, 2017. The new policy, which is intended to enhance the privacy protections of individuals participating in NIH-funded research studies, eliminates the need for NIH-funded investigators to apply for a CoC. A CoC will be issued automatically to NIH-funded grants and contracts for which identifiable, sensitive information is used or collected. Compliance with new requirements for safeguarding this personal information will become a term and condition of award.

IRB Staff Transition: We bid a fond farewell to Senior IRB Administrator, Myles Gideon. Myles has transitioned into a Project Manager role for The Office of Research Integrity and Assurance. Please continue to contact Guilaine Senecal, Vanessa McCaffery, and Janet Jayne for all IRB-related questions.

Get in touch with your IRB Team

During Office Hours

Alternating Wednesdays (10 am–1 pm), and Tuesdays (1-4 pm).

See detailed schedule [here](#), click the “IRB Office Hours (New times!)” link.

In person: East Hill Office Building, Suite 320 (accessible via 82 bus)

By phone: 254-5162, 255-5138, or 255-8994

At other times

Via email: irbhp@cornell.edu. Expect a response within 1 business day.

By phone: Vanessa McCaffery, 254-5162, Janet Jayne, 255-5138, or
Guilaine Senecal 255-8994

Comments or suggestions? Please contact us: irbhp@cornell.edu