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| **Title** | **Requirements for US Regulated Research**  |
| **SOP Code** | 109.001 |
| **Effective Date** |  |

**Site Approvals**

**Name and Title Signature**

**Date dd/mm/yyyy**

**1.0 PURPOSE**

The purpose of this standard operating procedure (SOP) is to describe the necessary changes to REB processes, procedures and composition required for review of human participant research that falls under the jurisdiction of US federal regulations (45CFR46).

**2.0 SCOPE**

This SOP pertains to REBs that review a proportion of human participant research in compliance with US federal regulations.

**3.0 RESPONSIBILITIES**

Organizational Official(s), all REB members and REB Office Personnel are responsible for ensuring that the requirements of this SOP are met.

**4.0 DEFINITIONS**

See Glossary of Terms.

**5.0 PROCEDURE**

The REB must review human research that falls under the jurisdiction of US federal agencies in compliance with US federal regulations. These requirements may differ from the policies and guidelines governing Canadian REBs and therefore necessitate changes to REB processes, procedures and composition.

**5.1 Determination of Research under US Federal Regulations**

5.1.1 Human participant research that is conducted, funded or supported by a US government agency and falls under the US Office of Human Research Protections’ (OHRP) definition of “human subjects research” must comply with US regulations 45CFR46, otherwise known as the “Common Rule”;

**5.2 REB Composition and Quorum**

5.2.1 In addition to the TCPS requirements for membership, the following REB composition requirements apply:

* If the REB regularly reviews research that involves a vulnerable category of participants, such as children, prisoners, pregnant women, or handicapped or mentally disabled persons, consideration shall be given to the inclusion of one or more individuals who are knowledgeable about and experienced in working with these groups.
* Membership may not consist entirely of members of one profession.
* At least one member whose primary concerns are in scientific areas and at least one member whose primary concerns are in nonscientific areas.
* At least one member who is not otherwise affiliated with the institution and who is not part of the immediate family of a person who is affiliated with the institution.

5.2.2 Quorum must additionally include 50% + 1 of the voting membership including a nonscientist.

**5.3 REB Procedures**

5.3.1 The REB Chair or designee shall determine if the project is defined as “human subjects research”;

5.3.2 For research determined to fall under the definition of “human subjects research”, the REB may only use expedited (delegated) review procedure for the initial and ongoing review of research that appears on the Secretary, Health and Human Services’ (HHS) list of categories for expedited review and is determined to involve no more than minimal risk and/or minor changes in previously approved research during the period for which approval is authorized;

5.3.3 At the time of continuing review, the REB may request verification from sources other than the investigator that no material changes have occurred since previous REB review. For example:

* Based on the results of a previous audit or inspection (internal or external),
* Suspected non-compliance,
* Studies involving vulnerable populations,
* Studies involving a potentially high risk to participants,
* Suspected or reported protocol deviations,
* Participant or Research Staff complaints,
* Any other situation that the REB deems appropriate;

5.3.4 The REB has the authority to observe or have a third party observe the consent process and the research.

 **5.4 Research involving prisoners as participants**

5.4.1 When reviewing research involving prisoners, the REB must additionally comply with the requirements outlined in 45CFR46 Subpart C, including:

* A majority of the REB members shall have no association with the prison(s) involved, apart from their membership on the REB;
* At least one member of the REB shall be a prisoner or a prisoner representative with appropriate background and experience to serve in that capacity;
* The research under review represents one of the categories of research permissible under 45CFR46.306(a)(2);
* Any possible advantages accruing to the prisoner through his or her participation in the research, when compared to the general living conditions, medical care, quality of food, amenities and opportunity for earnings in the prison, are not of such a magnitude that his or her ability to weigh the risks of the research against the value of such advantages in the limited choice environment of the prison is impaired;
* The risks involved in the research are commensurate with risks that would be accepted by nonprisoner volunteers;
* Procedures for the selection of subjects within the prison are fair to all prisoners and immune from arbitrary intervention by prison authorities or prisoners;
* Adequate assurance exists that parole boards will not take into account a prisoner's participation in the research in making decisions regarding parole, and each prisoner is clearly informed in advance that participation in the research will have no effect on his or her parole;
* Where the REB finds there may be a need for follow-up with participants after the end of their participation, adequate provision has been made for such activities, taking into account the varying lengths of individual prisoners' sentences, and for informing participants of this fact.

**5.5 Reporting to the Organization**

5.5.1 The Chair or designee will report any serious or continuing non-compliance with the Common Rule requirements and any suspension or termination of REB approval to the appropriate Organizational Official(s) and has the authority to notify the regulatory authorities (as applicable). The REB may delegate regulatory authority reporting to the organization.

**5.6 Informed Consent Form**

5.6.1 The informed consent form, when applicable, must additionally comply with the requirements set out in 45CFR50. For observational research, this includes, as appropriate/applicable to the research:

* The approximate number of research participants,
* The process involved for participation withdrawal,
* The effects of a participant choosing to withdraw,
* A statement identifying those with the authority to modify the research subjects participation (such as the Researcher or Sponsor).

**5.8 REB Records**

5.8.1 The REB Chair or designee will maintain the REB membership roster which includes: name, degree(s), area(s) of expertise and organizational affiliation(s), role on the REB (e.g. scientific, nonscientific), sex, and sufficient detail to describe each member’s chief anticipated contribution to REB deliberations (as applicable);

5.8.2 A vote will be held for each submission requiring a decision; the REB minutes will reflect the number of members voting for, against or abstaining for each submission.

**6.0 REFERENCES**

See References.

**7.0 REVISION HISTORY**

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| **SOP Code** | **Effective****Date** | **Summary of Changes** |
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| SOP 109.001 |  |  |
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