Minutes

Institutional Review Board Meeting

September 24th, 2026; 3:30 – 5:00 pm

- Present: Jo Morrison, Jessica Bourdon, Ryan Stouffer, Jarod Vance, Gregg Harbaugh-Schattenkirk, Alison King
- Membership update
    - The IRB continues to seek a community representative. IRB members will reach out to their contacts in the community who may be interested in serving.
- Approval of the minutes from the August 27th meeting
    - Minutes approved
- Report on IRB Activity: Protocols Assigned to the September 24th Meeting
    - Exempt 4
    - Not HSR 0
    - Amendments 3
    - Number of active protocols 72
- Review of revisions to Protocol 26-07-465
    - The IRB discussed the submitted revisions. All members agreed that the revisions addressed initial concerns.
    - Protocol 26-07-465 was approved.
- Research Guidance – Use of AI in HSR
    - The IRB discussed potential confusion among students about the use of AI for developing research materials (e.g., survey questions, consent materials). The use of AI to develop research materials is not overseen by the IRB, and as such, the Guidance may be more permissive than some faculty expectations. A clear statement indicating that students must consult with their faculty mentor regarding expectations for AI use was added to the beginning of the Guidance.
    - The IRB discussed the use of AI in data analysis, with particular attention to data privacy, identifiability, and the potential for individuals to be identifiable within small study populations. The IRB considered whether the Guidance should include specific restrictions on the types of data that may be used with AI tools. The group determined that broad restrictions would be difficult to apply consistently across research methods and AI applications, including tools used for functions such as transcription. The Guidance will instead emphasize researchers' responsibility to consider the identifiability and sensitivity of their data and to use AI tools in a manner consistent with appropriate ethical and privacy protections.
    - To better understand how AI is currently being incorporated into human subjects research, the IRB will informally review protocols that report the use of AI for data analysis, including protocols that may otherwise qualify for exemption. These reviews are intended to help the IRB identify emerging practices and issues and inform future revisions to the Guidance rather than to impose additional requirements at this time.
    - The IRB will continue to monitor the use of AI in research and revisit the Guidance as experience with these protocols develops.
- Meeting adjourned 4:30 pm

Next meeting: October 29th, 3:30 – 5:00 pm on Zoom