

Track Descriptions

	Tracks	Descriptions
1	Advanced Forum for Experienced IRB Professionals	This track is designed to provide <i>experienced</i> IRB professionals with a series of sessions covering both the “hot button” and the “work-a-day” aspects of their jobs. For some sessions, preparation materials will be sent to registrants in advance and will serve as the starting point for group discussions.
2	A Dialogue with the Federal Representatives I	Tracks 2 and 3 will provide attendees with an opportunity to hear from and ask questions of federal agency representatives.
3	A Dialogue with the Federal Representatives II	Please see the description for Track 2.
4	Brother Can You Spare a Dime? NEW!	In at time in which everyone must do more with less, this track will provide an array of cost-saving strategies that won't compromise subject protections or program quality.
5	Clinical Research Professionals	This track will provide investigators, research nurses, clinical research staff, and CRO employees with a range of sessions on issues of interest and relevance to their work.
6	Community/Non-Scientific Members	This track will equip community/non-scientific members with essentials concepts and skills so they can more effectively fulfill their roles on the IRB. Following the conference, a “ Certificate of Core Competency ” will be awarded to those who attend four of the five sessions in this track.
7	Education	This track will help attendees develop effective educational programs for all of the professional participants in the HRPP process.
8	Ethical Issues	This track will focus on the ethical principles underlying research and the problematic issues facing IRBs/HRPPs.
9	Federal Regulations I	Tracks 9 and 10 will provide an opportunity to review and discuss with representatives from select federal agencies the regulations pertaining to HRPP/IRB oversight of human subjects research. These tracks include both basic and advanced topics.
10	Federal Regulations II	Please see the description for Track 9.
11	Hot Spots I	Tracks 11 and 12 will address issues that are current, complex, and controversial!
12	Hot Spots II	Please see the description for Track 11.
13	IRB-Sponsor Relationships	This track will provide representatives from HRPPs and drug, device, and biotechnology industries with an opportunity to discuss topics of mutual interest, including accreditation, experimental treatments, construction of protocols, compensation, Phase IV studies, and more.
14	IRB Operations and Tool Kit	This track is designed to provide a forum where IRB professionals new to the field can come together to acquire and/or augment the strategies and skills needed to do their jobs.
15	Informed Consent	This track will provide an understanding of how to design and implement an optimal consent process, and how to write a fair, accurate, and comprehensible consent form.
16	Institutional Officials	This track will provide a meeting ground where institutional officials (and others with oversight responsibilities) can discuss concerns, problems, strategies, and useful innovations.
17	International	This track is designed for non-US-based research professionals working with colleagues in the US, and US researchers and HRPP/IRB professionals working overseas. Sessions will cover issues relating to the conduct of ethical research across geographic and cultural borders.
18	Legal	This track will cover legal, legislative, and compliance issues. Methods for effective communication and collaboration among legal counsel, sponsors, HRPP professionals, and other stakeholders will also be discussed.

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19	Oncology and Cancer Centers	This track will address issues relevant to oncology research and cancer centers. Many of the principles are applicable to other forms of research and, therefore, all are welcome.
20	Panel Follow-Up	This track will provide attendees with the opportunity to explore topics related to the conference plenary sessions.
21	Populations Requiring Additional Protections I	Tracks 21 and 22 will cover issues that arise when conducting research with populations that may require additional protections. These sessions include an analysis of the general concept of vulnerability, as well as in-depth discussions about vulnerable populations protected under the subparts to 45 CFR 46. Populations that may be subject to coercion or undue influence, or which have a diminished capacity to give truly informed consent, will also be discussed.
22	Populations Requiring Additional Protections II	Please see the description for Track 22.
23	QA/QI and Post-IRB Approval Monitoring and Review	This track will review the fundamental elements of a quality assurance/quality improvement program and methods for monitoring ongoing clinical research following IRB approval.
24	SBER Advanced	This track will cover more advanced issues related to the conduct and review of SBE research.
25	SBER Basic	This track will cover basic issues related to the conduct and review of SBE research.
26	Self-Assessment and Accreditation of HRPPs	This track will include information on self-assessment and accreditation processes, including accreditation, reaccreditation, self-assessments using the various standards available online, and qualitative and quantitative methods and metrics.
27	Science for the Non-scientist	This track will introduce nonscientist IRB administrators/professionals, staff, and/or committee members to selected scientific topics that will facilitate an enhanced understanding of the research process.
28	Small Research Programs NEW!	This track is geared toward small research programs including, but not limited to, community hospitals, colleges, and research institutions. The sessions will address the special challenges faced by these entities, including understaffed offices, a lack of full-time physicians/researchers on staff, lack of a “research culture,” etc.