Pillars of PRIM&R Project: Effects of an In-Meeting Intervention on Meeting Length, Approval Time and Member Satisfaction

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Purpose: The general purpose of this study is to evaluate human research protection program user satisfaction, IRB member satisfaction, length of non-medical IRB meetings and the time required for approval of projects through the non-medical IRB at the institution by the use of an in-meeting intervention. It is hoped that the findings from this project will be beneficial in improving the overall functioning of the non-medical IRB, ultimately resulting in greater satisfaction among the patrons of the non-medical IRB and a reduction in the time required for approval of human subjects research projects. The current study proposes to implement a pre and post test design of materials already being collected as a part of yearly evaluations of the human research protections programs.

Implementation of the Intervention: The protocol review form was first implemented during the April 2013 Non-Medical IRB Meeting. Use of the form is ongoing and there are plans to continue implementation of the form through the September 2013 Non-Medical IRB meeting, which will represent a six month data collection, as originally planned in the funding application.

Feedback from Committee Members: During the initial presentation of the review form, the principal investigator received mixed responses about the use of the form. Negative feelings were related to using another “form” as a part of the review process. Positive feelings were related to the form being a good training tool, particularly for new members.