What Does “Retrospective” Mean:
Retro- [re-troh]: To look back (From Latin retro behind, backwards)

In the field of human subjects protections, the word “retrospective” to describe a very specific situation. We use it when referring to the use of previously-existing data/samples that have been collected for non-research purposes in a new research project. The research is retrospective in the sense that all of the data/samples already exist at the time of the IRB application.

The PPHS staff wants to take the opportunity to remind researchers that terms like “retrospective approval” or “retrospective consent” are incorrect because IRB approval or a determination of exempt or not human subject research must be made before any data can be collected, used or analyzed for research purposes.

The PPHS Invites you to our Grand Rounds:

International Research -
May 16, 2012 2-3 pm
Icahn Medical Institute,
First Floor Seminar Room

Pathological Specimens for Research -
June 20, 2012 3-4 pm
Annenberg 5th Floor,
Dining Room AB

Registration is not required.

Coordinator Shout-Outs!

We reached out to a coordinator, Brandy Haydel, Clinical Research Program Director with the Recanati/Miller Transplantation Institute about what she thinks makes for a good IRB submission. She gave us some tips that you might find helpful:

• Coordinators should establish a good working relationship with their investigator(s) – this truly is the key to success in every aspect of clinical research.
• Stay educated – regulations and best practices are constantly evolving. There are many educational opportunities within the institution and the NY metropolitan area that research coordinators can benefit from and should take advantage of.
• Never hesitate to ask the PPHS office questions – if you’re unsure how something should be done or why you have received specific comments, ask for help from your analyst!

Submit your tips to IRB@mssm.edu for possible inclusion in a future eNewsletter

NCI CIRB Update

Mount Sinai School of Medicine enrolled in the NCI Pediatric Central IRB (CIRB) initiative. The NCI CIRB is a central IRB that reviews only NCI Cooperative Group research. In February 2012, we successfully transferred 16 active Children’s Oncology Group (COG) research studies to the NCI CIRB.

You can visit www.ncicirb.org to learn more about the initiative.

The PPHS office has partnered with the Cancer Clinical Trials Office (CCTO) to identify eligible investigators, and collect the necessary information to enroll in the NCI Adult CIRB for all NCI Cooperative group studies that go through the NCI CIRB. We are in the process of registering over 45 Investigators affiliated with ACOSOG, CALGB, ECOG, GOG, NCCTG, NCIC CTG, NSABP, RTOG and/or SWOG into this initiative which will allow the MSSM IRB to conduct a “facilitated review” of the research and accept the NCI CIRB review.

A specialized form set has been developed for these studies to ensure MSSM IRB receives the local site information necessary to fulfill its responsibilities under the agreement with NCI CIRB regarding the local review while reducing the burden on research teams.

These forms will be posted to the website shortly.

If you have any questions about this initiative, or to receive additional information, please contact Liz Carroll at liz.carroll@mssm.edu.

Opinion Survey

We’re interested in finding easy, convenient and effective methods to communicate with you.

Take a short customer service survey (by June 15) on Survey Monkey (http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/2CW9QT) to let us know what you think!

What You’re Saying About Electronic Submissions:

“Two thumbs up!!”
“This is an awesome initiative. We highly welcome it.”
“This is great! Congratulations!”
“Congrats---this is awesome!! Change is upon us --- Yipessssssss!”

What Does “Retrospective” Mean:
Retro- [re-troh]: To look back (From Latin retro behind, backwards)