Collaborative and Biomedical Research Review

**Summary/Purpose:** IRB review authority and procedures for collaborative and biomedical research.

**Introduction**

This policy covers two situations, which often overlap. First, it sets policy for research collaborations: UM investigators collaborating with researchers at other research institutions. Second, it covers IRB review of biomedical research, such as trials of FDA approved drugs and devices presenting more than minimal risk or drugs and devices not FDA approved. Because UM’s IRB is constituted to expertly review social/behavioral research and not biomedical research, biomedical research requires review by an alternative IRB that has that expertise.

**Policy**

- Research done by UM investigators who collaborate with investigators at other research institutions can be reviewed either by UM’s IRB or by the IRB at the collaborating institution. In the second case, UM researchers must provide UM’s IRB electronic copies of the approved application and the IRB approval letter from the collaborating institution’s IRB.

- The review of biomedical research 1) that is conducted by UM researchers at UM, 2) that is conducted by UM researchers at a collaborating research institution, or 3) that is subcontracted from UM will either be reviewed by University of Mississippi Medical Center’s (UMMC) IRB under the existing authorization agreement or deferred to the collaborating or subcontracted institution’s biomedical IRB.

Where there is an authorization agreement, the external institution’s IRB will:

- Provide copies to UM’s IRB on any
  1. reports of 1) adverse events or 2) unanticipated problems involving risks to participants or others
  2. progress/renewal reports
  3. other correspondence related to the approved research.

UM’s IRB reserves the right to conduct a site visit of the research (after obtaining approval from the collaborating institution’s IRB and any other authority required).

[See also the policy on “Research in Schools and Organizations Having No IRB” for institutions with no IRB.]