Using the IREx to Capture Local Considerations from Participating Sites

One of the biggest challenges to relying on a single IRB (sIRB) is ensuring the Participating Site (PS) Human Research Protection Program (HRPP) is aware of the study, has completed their institutional reviews, and communicates all relevant local considerations to the sIRB. As of February 2018, IREx can be used to capture this study-specific information from PS.

**BENEFITS OF USING IREx TO CAPTURE LOCAL CONSIDERATIONS**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>For Single IRBs (sIRBs)</th>
<th>For Lead Study Teams/Coordinating Centers (LSTs/CCs)</th>
<th>For Relying HRPPs</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Standardize questions and align with national sIRB initiatives</td>
<td>• Track site progress</td>
<td>• Reduces duplicative submission of site-specific/institutional local considerations</td>
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<td>• Minimize need for external study teams to submit directly to the sIRB’s submission system</td>
<td>• Centralize site documentation of local considerations</td>
<td>• Verify information submitted by your local study team to the sIRB</td>
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<td>• Ensure sign off by the Participating Site (PS) HRPPs</td>
<td>• Enable pre-screening to catch errors or missing information and facilitate edits</td>
<td>• Provides a historical record of local considerations submitted on a study-by-study basis</td>
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**WHAT DO I NEED TO KNOW BEFORE USING IREx TO CAPTURE LOCAL CONSIDERATIONS?**

1. Local considerations consists of THREE components in IREx:
   a. **Site-specific Information**: Each HRPP completes an Institutional Profile (IP) one time, the IP captures information about the FWA, legal components, and overarching state laws or institutional policies affecting all research at a site.
   b. **Study-specific Information from the HRPP—The Human Research Protections (HRP) survey**: For each study, the PS’s HRPP must communicate any applicable state or local laws, regulations, institutional policies, standards, relevant consent language, or other local factors, including local ancillary reviews, relevant to the study being reviewed.
   c. **Study-specific Information from the PI—The PI Survey**: For each study, PS PIs are asked to provide information about the conduct of the study and any procedures that differ from the protocol. This information must be verified by the PS’s HRPP.

2. **Study Set-up**: After indicating you will collect local considerations in IREx, please indicate how PS consents are being handled:
   - (Recommended) **Sites will provide consents for sIRB review** (e.g., using a template): Select this option if sites will provide their locally required language in the consent form or a template the sIRB provides. Using this option, the study team enters their required language into the consent; submits it to their HRPP for sign off; and the HRPP will upload the consent to the HRP survey in IREx for sIRB review.
   - A **consent generator will be used to build consents for sites**: Select this option if sites will provide their locally required language and consents will be created for the sites by the Coordinating Center, Lead Study Team, or sIRB, which may require significant resources depending on the number of sites and consents. In this option, the PS HRPP liaison and PI enter their required language into the HRP and PI surveys in IREx, rather than directly into a consent. The consent is then generated and submitted for sIRB review.

3. **Submitting local considerations in IREx is NOT a submission to the sIRB**. IREx is a mechanism to centrally capture and track local considerations from sites. However, after a site completes the local considerations, the IREx Study Manager (i.e., the lead coordinator or coordinating center) receives an email from IREx that local considerations is complete. The Study Manager then exports the information and submits it to the sIRB for review.