



# IRB Reliance Exchange

YOUR SYSTEM SOLUTION FOR SINGLE IRB REVIEW

## QUARTERLY CALL FOR HRPPS

October 15, 2021

- User Materials Development
- User Support

**Katelyn Benhoff**



- Onboarding
- Study Support

**David Crenshaw**



- Training
- Study Support

**Natalie Dilts**



- Lead Application Developer

**Bryce Embry**



- System Development

**Asri Mumpuni**



- Project Director

**Emily Serdoz**



- Onboarding
- Study Support

**Bridget Swindell**



- Application Developer

**Jason Tan**



- Website & System Dev
- Study & User Support

**Linda Tan**



- Application Developer

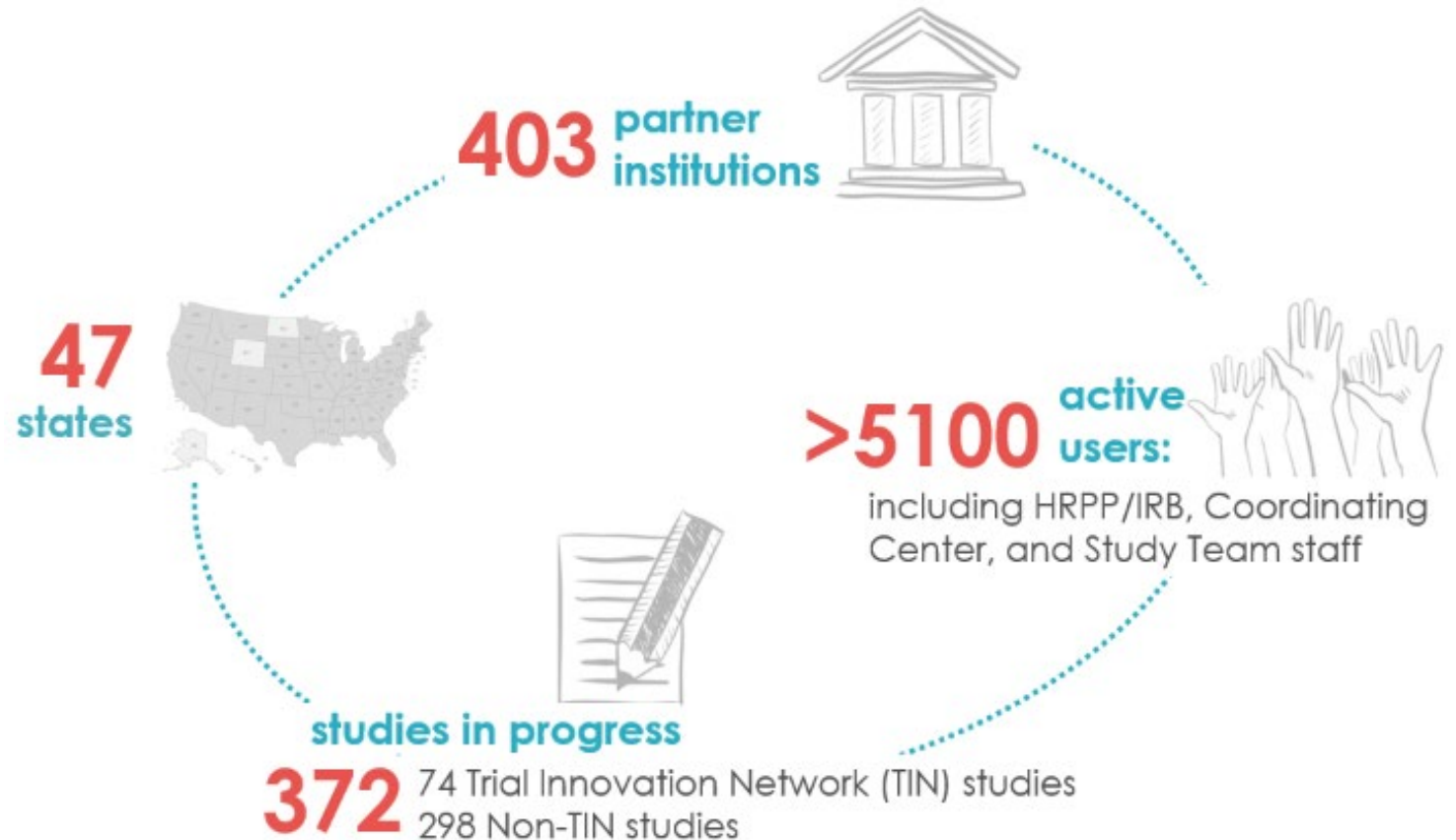
**Evan Wimberly**



# QUARTERLY CALL AGENDA



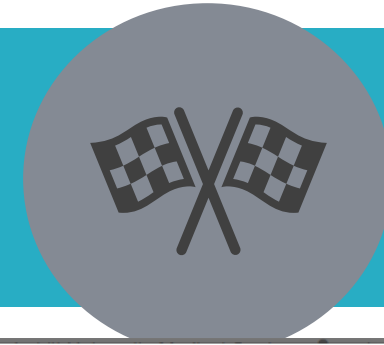
- **Welcome!**
- **Recent System Updates**
- **Upcoming System Updates**
- **Hear from the Pros –  
*Jenni Beadles, VUMC  
HRPP***



# Recent System Updates

Since July 2021

# Document Study Closures (sIRBs and SMs)



Site-Specific Info Manage Project

Study Summary Reviewing IRB Contact IREx Study Managers Participating Personnel

## Influenza-associated pneumonia hospitalizations in Jupiter

Study-wide IRB Approvals Site-specific IRB Approvals Status Summary

Protocol Version: 1 Manage Version

SIRB: University of Black Labrador

Initial Study: Full Board (exp. 8/29/2020)

Edit Review Site approvals

Study Info Key Dates

- Site Approvals
- Add Continuing Review
- Add Study-Wide Amendment
- Add SITE amendment
- Add Study Closure**

### Study Closure

## Influenza-associated pneumonia hospitalizations in Jupiter

**Reason for Study Closure**  
(Select all that apply)

- Study Completed
- Study Discontinued for futility
- Study Discontinued for under-enrollment
- Study Discontinued for lack of resources or funding
- Study Terminated for ethical concerns or non-compliance
- Other

Please type any other reasons...

**Date of Closure** 07/01/2021

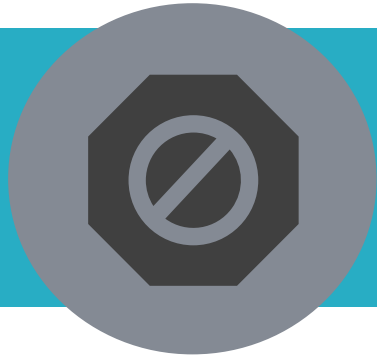
**IRB Determination Letter** Choose File determination letter.docx

**Other Documents** Choose Files No file chosen

Publish study closure documents, making them visible to relying sites.

Cancel Save

# Document Site Closures (sIRBs and SMs)



Study-wide IRB Approvals | **Site specific IRB Approvals** | Status Summary

Protocol Version: 2 Manage Version ▾

Faraday Institute of Research, Science and Technology + Add Site Amendment + Add Site Closure

Amendment: Full Board (exp. 10/31/2021) Current

Site-Specific Info ▾ | Manage Project ▾

Study Summary ▾ | Reviewing IRB Contact ▾ | IREx Study Managers ▾ | Participating Personnel

## 20210908\_study team view after site closure no LC

Study-wide IRB Approvals | Site-specific IRB Approvals | **Status Summary**

Participant Status Summary Closed Sites

Q Search:

Site	Reliance Agreement	IREx Access	Reliance Decision	Approval Status (current version)
Middle-earth College of Agriculture	SMART 1	✓	Completed 9/8/2021	Approved
Peabody Institute of Medicine	SMART 1	✓	Completed 9/8/2021	Approved

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### Closed Sites

Site	Reason(s) for Closure	Dates	Documented By	Version on Closure
Albert Einstein College of Medicine - FWA#00005001	Site Enrollment complete	<i>Date of Closure</i> 9/8/2021 <i>Closure Uploaded</i> 9/8/2021 <i>Study Access Ends</i> 10/8/2021	Lindsey Smith	9/8/2021, v1
Faraday Institute of Research, Science and Technology - FWA#01569874	Site Discontinued for under-enrollment	<i>Date of Closure</i> 9/8/2021 <i>Closure Uploaded</i> 9/8/2021 <i>Study Access Ends</i> 10/8/2021	Lindsey Smith	9/8/2021, v1

Close

# Upcoming System Updates

Fall/Winter 2021

# New Questions on the IREx Institutional Profile (IP)



THANK YOU!

89% of IREx Institutions have completed their IP!

NAME	INSTITUTIONAL PROFILE	LOCATION	LIAISON(S)
Advanced Neurology Specialists	<a href="#">updated 4/3/2018</a>	Great Falls, MT	Laura Armstrong
Advarra, Inc.	<i>incomplete</i>	Columbia, MD	Lauri Carlile Kathleen Rankin
Adventist Health System, Sunbelt, Inc. dba AdventHealth Orlando <b>AAHRPP</b>	<a href="#">updated 7/30/2020</a>	Orlando, FL	Michelle McKinney Janice Turchin
Advocate Health Care Network (Downers Grove)	<a href="#">updated 3/5/2019</a>	Downers Grove, IL	Jasmine Taylor Sherri Velez
Akron General Med Ctr	<a href="#">updated 1/4/2021</a>	Akron, OH	Kalisha Washington
Albany Medical Center	<a href="#">updated 10/22/2019</a>	Albany, NY	Katy Regan
Albert Einstein College of Medicine <b>CTSA</b>	<a href="#">updated 9/25/2019</a>	Bronx, NY	Rui Ferreira Stefanie Juell Gabriella Weston
Albert Einstein Healthcare Network	<a href="#">updated 3/15/2019</a>	Philadelphia, PA	Mary Klein
Alexian Brothers Hospital Network	<a href="#">updated 8/30/2021</a>	Lisle, IL	Shivi Stanley
Allegheny Health Network Research Institute	<a href="#">updated 12/17/2019</a>	Pittsburgh, PA	Dawnmarie DeFazio Susan Hebda Holly Wimer
Allina Health HRPP	<a href="#">updated 9/9/2020</a>	Minneapolis, MN	Gayle Kusch Christine Roering
American Natl Red Cross, Biomedical Services	<a href="#">updated 11/13/2020</a>	Washington, DC	Pampee Young
Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago <b>AAHRPP</b>	<a href="#">updated 10/8/2021</a>	Chicago, IL	Tricia Eifler Allison Harris Kaleigh Michalko
Arkansas Children's Research Institute	<a href="#">updated 8/9/2021</a>	Little Rock, AR	Janet Storment
Ascension Providence Hospital	<a href="#">updated 8/11/2020</a>	Southfield, MI	Nicola Bolda
Ascension St. John Hospital	<a href="#">updated 3/22/2019</a>	Detroit, MI	Lee Bowen

# New Questions on the IREx Institutional Profile (IP)



1. Does your site use an **eConsent platform** if needed for a trial
2. If your site will enroll **non-English speakers**, does your site allow the use of a short form?
  - How many times can the **short form** be used before needing a fully translated consent? [or no limit]
  - Does your site require a **Translator/Witness to sign** the Short form?
  - Does your site require a Translator/Witness to sign the full English consent document?'
  - Does your site have **additional policies** related to the consent of non-English speakers? [upload]
3. Does your site's **consent process require any additional documents or riders?**  
For example, Subject Bill of Rights.
4. For trials providing **compensation**, does your site have specific guidelines, policies, or language that will need to be incorporated into the consent?
5. Describe how your institution has **assessed the quality of its HRPP/IRB.**



- Set your infrastructure

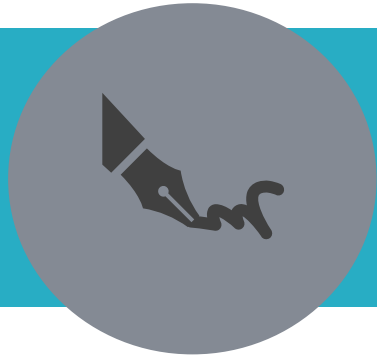
# New Questions on the IREx Institutional Profile (IP)



- Institutions are encouraged to update their IREx Institutional Profile annually.
- New questions will be added in November – we'll notify you by email.
- Institutions will be required to respond to the new questions in the IP before they can complete the reliance process for a study.



# Agreement Checker Available Prior to Creating Study



## Resources

Find other users

Find other sites

Agreement Checker

Add HRPP Staff / Members

Request Help

Join A Training

Resources

## Agreement Checking Tool

### Report Parameters

SIRB

Faraday Institute of Research, Science and Technology

Add Participating Site

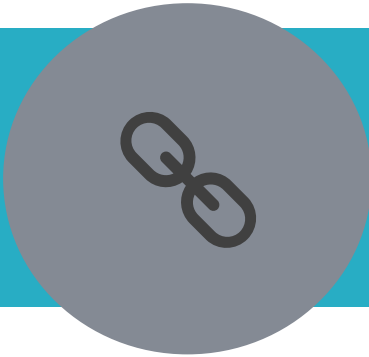
Select a site

Download CSV

Sites may be part of multiple reliance agreements. Each site is only required to execute one of the reliance agreements offered on a study.

Site Name	FWA	SMART 1	SMART 2	Other Reliance	IREx	
Carnegie University Medical Center	#12345678	✓	✓	✗	✓	Remove
Eastman Medical Center of Ohio	#45648974865	✓	✓	✗	✓	Remove
Mellon University Medical Center	#00001111	✓	✓	✗	✓	Remove
Middle-earth College of Agriculture	#456431546	✓	✗	✗	✓	Remove

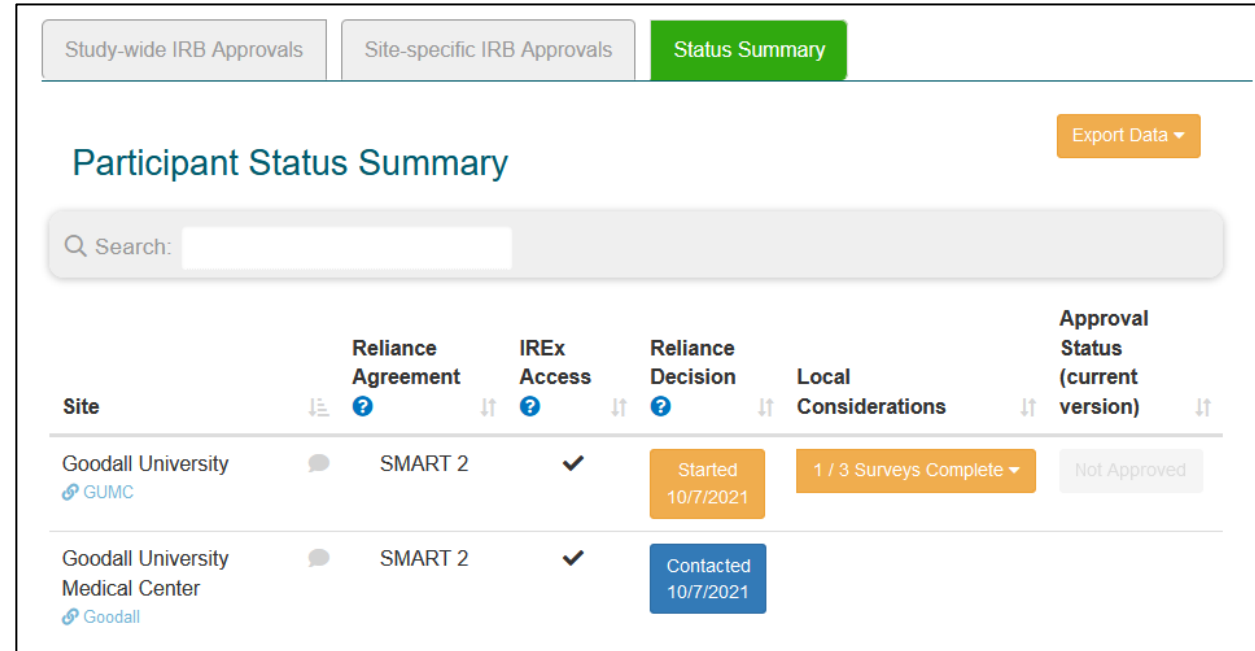
# New Flexibility for Combo Sites



- “Combo Sites” occur when a single study team engages multiple FWAs.
- Each FWA must provide reliance documentation (cede decision + local considerations)
- IREx required ALL FWA in the combo to complete documentation before it could be exported for sIRB review.

## PROBLEMS

- Held up study initiation at some sites.
- Addition of new recruitment sites interfered with already approved sites.



The screenshot shows a web interface for 'Participant Status Summary'. It has three tabs: 'Study-wide IRB Approvals', 'Site-specific IRB Approvals', and 'Status Summary' (which is active). There is an 'Export Data' button in the top right. Below the tabs is a search bar. The main content is a table with columns: 'Site', 'Reliance Agreement', 'IREx Access', 'Reliance Decision', 'Local Considerations', and 'Approval Status (current version)'. Two rows are visible:

Site	Reliance Agreement	IREx Access	Reliance Decision	Local Considerations	Approval Status (current version)
Goodall University GUMC	SMART 2	✓	Started 10/7/2021	1 / 3 Surveys Complete	Not Approved
Goodall University Medical Center Goodall	SMART 2	✓	Contacted 10/7/2021		



## Solution (coming late October!)



- Local considerations can be exported individually, as they are completed
- sIRB Approvals can be posted to IREx as they are issued



**IRB Reliance Exchange**

YOUR SYSTEM SOLUTION FOR SINGLE IRB REVIEW

# !SPECIAL GUEST!

- Incorporating IREx into Your Single IRB Workflow -



## Guest Speaker:

Jenni Beadles, MEd, CIP  
Assistant Director External Partners  
Human Research Protections Program  
Vanderbilt University Medical Center

# **INCORPORATING IREX INTO YOUR SIRB WORKFLOW**

**JENNI BEADLES, MEd, CIP**

**ASSISTANT DIRECTOR EXTERNAL PARTNERS**

**VANDERBILT HUMAN RESEARCH PROTECTIONS PROGRAM (VHRPP)**

**VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY MEDICAL CENTER**



**VANDERBILT**

# OBJECTIVES

- Establishing infrastructure
- Maximizing systems solutions
- Working together as a team



# **IREX AS PART OF SIRB INFRASTRUCTURE**



# SINGLE IRB INFRASTRUCTURE AT VANDERBILT

Agreements are completed one time per institution to avoid lengthy negotiations on a study-by-by study basis



1. **SMART IRB Reliance Agreement**: A national, master reliance agreement supporting single IRB review
2. **SIRB Letter of Indemnification**: (LOI) for the SMART IRB Reliance Agreement may be required. The SIRB LOI is a separate agreement concerning indemnification and related terms that may be required by the sIRB.



**IRB Reliance Exchange**  
YOUR SYSTEM SOLUTION FOR SINGLE IRB REVIEW

**IRB Reliance Exchange (IREx)**: A single IRB documentation and communication portal.

To access IREx, a human research protections administrator or IRB director/manager can request to create an account and accept the terms of use.

*[A portal agreement is no longer required to join IREx.]*

# SINGLE IRB INFRASTRUCTURE AT VANDERBILT

- Message consistently communicated to in all consultations and education
- Requirements for SIRB on website
- Efforts to assist sites in signing on to all aspects
- Whenever possible, no exceptions (which means there are sometimes exceptions 😊, but rarely)



# SYSTEM SOLUTIONS

API WORK BETWEEN DISCOVER-E  
(VANDERBILT'S ONLINE SUBMISSION  
SYSTEM) AND IREX

# NEW STUDY

## VANDERBILT AS THE LEAD SITE

When the lead site is VUMC, then the new study submission will be similar to a regular standard/expedited new study submission.

### HOW IS THE PROCESS THE SAME?

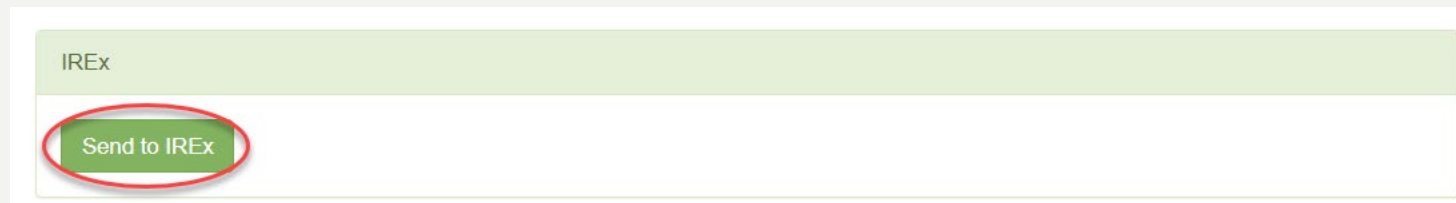
- The initial review will include the following applicable documents:
  - Protocol
  - IRB application
  - Informed Consent Documents
  - Investigator's Brochure and/or package inserts
  - Device Manual
  - Recruitment Materials, Study Measures, Study Materials, etc.

### HOW IS THE PROCESS DIFFERENT?

- Protocol → should be applicable for all sites. Site-specific references should not be included.
- IRB Application → should only reference VUMC. Relying site details are submitted with the external site surveys.
- Recruitment materials → should be written as template at the study wide level.
- Informed Consent Documents (ICD) → should utilize the two-part consent format.
  - Part 1 Master ICD
  - Part 2 Study Site InformationShort Form ICDs for non-English speaking participants → should be written as a template

# NEW STUDY SOLUTIONS

- New study can be pushed from DISCOVER-e to IREx when the analyst finishes the pre-review
  - This step requires a one-time log-in to IREx by our staff to complete the Study Set up
  - Also alerts the IREx team there is a new study so our team collaboration can begin



- Once review and approved by the IRB, the approved study documents can be pushed from DISCOVER-e to IREx

# ★ SITE ADDITIONS ★

Site Additions are expected to be submitted AFTER the SIRB's initial approval of the overall study and local review by the relying sites. Site Additions should include the following information PER RELYING SITE – all of the following items are exported from IREx and checked for completion by the Study Coordinator or Coordinating Center prior to submission to the VUMC SIRB:

- Institutional Profile – complete with responses to all questions
- Human Research Protection (HRP) Survey – should include:
  - Responses to all questions
  - Uploaded Part 2 ICD (when applicable) complete with respective site's required local language
  - Signature of HRP Representative
- Principal Investigator (PI) Survey – should include:
  - Responses to all questions
  - Signature of respective site's PI
- Study-Specific Reliance Plan (SSRP)
- Part 2 ICD (when applicable)
- Site-specific Assent Form (when applicable)
- Stand-alone HIPAA forms: these are accepted with the site's information, but are not approved/stamped by the VUMC SIRB

*Note: incomplete surveys will not be accepted. Sites with incomplete surveys will be considered 'not ready' for review and removed from the submission to facilitate review of the sites that are ready. Site Additions are limited to 5 'ready' sites per submission..*

# SITE ADD SOLUTIONS

- When sites have completed their surveys in IREx, that information pushes from IREx to DISCOVER-e.
- DISCOVER-e sends a notification to the study team that they have a site considered 'ready' to add to the study
- When in DISCOVER-e, all of the documentation required for a site add can be imported from IREx by the study team as they are preparing their submission




**TEAM WORK**



# IREX & IRB COLLABORATION

- Leverage resources across teams – the IREx team is a huge help
- Create efficiency for study teams (and the IRB!)
- Explore opportunities for how your teams can uniquely work together
- Communication is key



**QUESTIONS?**

# Next Call

- January 21, 2022

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# Join the IREx User Feedback Group!

- Open to HRPP Liaisons and Study Managers
- Members provide input on upcoming features and priorities.
- Current membership includes:
  - Indiana
  - Johns Hopkins
  - Ohio State
  - Oregon
  - Pennington Biomedical
  - Utah
  - Vanderbilt
  - Wake Forest
  - WashU
- Meets the 3rd Friday each month at 1 ET.
- [Sign up here](#)