



Dear University of Maryland Research Community,

We have recently obtained approval to resume In-Person Human Subjects Research at the University of Maryland College Park. Guidelines, a safety assuredness planning template, and a new review process have recently been approved. The following pertinent documents are posted on the front page of the IRB Website as of today, August 3, 2020: <https://research.umd.edu/irb>

1. IRB Guidance - Resuming Human Subjects Research Guidelines
2. Plan Template - Resuming Human Subjects Research (document entitled Safety Assuredness Procedures & Guidance Plan for Resuming In-Person Human Subject Research)

We are now in Stage 1 for Human Subjects Research which allows for resumption of in-person human subjects research activities with direct benefit to the participant, as well as some in-person human subjects research activities without direct benefit with proper approvals. Priority has been given to those projects that present a prospect of direct benefit and require in-person human subject research activities.

It is important to note that the Department Chairs and the Deans must approve and sign the required Safety Assuredness Procedures & Guidance Plan for Resuming In-Person Human Subject Research prior to Plan submission by the researchers to the Institutional Review Board (IRB) via IRBNet.

Once submitted with appropriate approvals, the IRB Working Group will review the plan and request any needed changes. Once the IRB Working Group approves, it will be vetted by Facilities to ensure there are no issues with the buildings and/or rooms to be used. Lastly, it will be sent to the Vice President for Research for final approval as the Institutional Official for Human Subjects Research.

PLEASE NOTE: IRB Approval and Safety Assuredness & Guidance Plan for Resuming In-Person Human Subject Research Approvals are two separate approvals. Human Subject Research may not resume until both are in place.

Please email irb@umd.edu with any questions.

Thanks and stay safe!

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