UMD IRB COVID Guidance – Human Subject Research Activities

Community-based Research & Research in Community Settings
Researchers must follow all guidelines set by the collaborating entity (e.g., nursing home, school, community center, etc.). A letter from the collaborating entity is required stating that University of Maryland researchers are permitted toconduct studies in their facilities. This letter must be included in your IRB Application.

Clinical Research and Other Campus Research Involving Human Subjects
Researchers conducting clinical research and other human subject research on campus must follow the current campus guidelines stated here: https://umd.edu/4Maryland. The current guidelines that apply for classroom settings will apply to human subject research - where multiple individuals are in the same room without the real possibility of social distancing face coverings must be worn.

Vulnerable and High Risk Populations
This includes children under 12 years of age, unvaccinated individuals, immunocompromised individuals, or anyone at an increased risk of COVID-19 infection (according to CDC guidance). **Face coverings must** be worn if interacting with high-risk or vulnerable populations **on campus** for research purposes.

This means that Resuming Human Subject Research Plans are no longer required. The info in the above notice is the new standard. We ask that you continue to exercise best and safe practices as we move forward.

Consent Language
COVID Risk language for the Consent Form Risks section is available for use if you wish to use it. Please feel free to modify as needed for your project.

Pre-Screening Questionnaire
A COVID Pre-Screening Questionnaire is available if you wish to use it.

International Research
Please follow recommendations from local and regional public health and governance. This is allowable provided you and your collaborative teams follow all the recommendations in the specific regions and adhere to all in country restrictions and regulations. You must document those country approvals for human subjects interactions in each of the countries/sections you will be collecting data. This includes remote interviews and collection of data.

Please Note: During Quality Assurance monitoring on these projects it is expected that the supporting in country documentation must be on file for review by the IRB Office and Quality Assurance Team.

We appreciate everyone who has stuck with us to make this work during the pandemic. Please reach out to irb@umd.edu or askresearchadmin@umd.edu with any questions. We will do our best to respond quickly.