

UMD IRB COVID Guidance – Human Subject Research Activities

June 30, 2022

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 to conduct 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>.

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](#)).

Wearing face coverings is encouraged if interacting with high-risk or vulnerable populations on campus for research purposes. 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. If required by the country or locale, you must document 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 will be on-file for review by the IRB Office and Quality Assurance Team.

Please reach out to irb@umd.edu or askresearchadmin@umd.edu with any questions.