

Announcing New NTR IRB Resources and Updates

New Consent Form Templates for Human Subject Investigators:

In continuing the North Texas Regional Institutional Review Board's (NTR IRB's) commitment to providing researchers with valuable tools needed for their research successes, the NTR IRB is excited to announce the release of two new consent form templates for investigators:

1. **Consent Form Template (General):** This template includes all of the required elements of informed consent (per the federal regulations, with regard to human subjects research), and can be used to develop a consent form for any category of research project (Exempt, Expedited, or Full Board).
2. **Consent Statement/Cover Letter Template:** This template should ONLY be used for studies in which the principal investigator is requesting a *Waiver of Documentation of Informed Consent*, as the subjects will not be signing (documenting) their agreement to participate by signing a consent form. *Please note that this template replaces the NTR IRB's previous versions of the "Research Statement/Consent Cover Letter" templates.*

Please note that each template includes general guidance as well as instructions to investigators on how to draft an appropriate consent form/template. Investigators should carefully read through the information provided in each template, and ensure that *all* information included in the final draft submitted to the NTR IRB is appropriate to the conduct of their specific research study.

Recent Updates to NTR IRB Standard Operating Principles and Procedures (SOPs):

The NTR IRB recently made some administrative updates to the [NTR IRB SOPs](#). Among these updates (which are outlined on pages 5-6 of the SOPs), include a change in the timeline of Administrative Closures of *new* projects (in which there has been no response to IRB comments) from 6 months to 2 months.

The goal of this change is to ensure timely IRB review and approval of projects. Investigators should always communicate to the IRB staff/office, as soon as possible, any questions/concerns they have regarding IRB comments, or if there are any project-related issues that arise during the course of the review. Remember – we are always here to help you so please don't hesitate to reach out!

If you have any questions about these resources/updates, please contact the NTR IRB office at 817-735-0409 or NorthTexRegIRB@unthsc.edu.