

EXPEDITED REVIEW CATEGORIES

The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) has established and published a list of categories of research that may be reviewed by the IRB through an expedited review procedure. Research that falls under an expedited category is not reviewed by the full board at its monthly meetings, but is reviewed by the IRB on a rolling basis. Expedited review can be considered when research activities present no more than minimal risk to human subjects and involve only procedures listed in one or more of the following nine categories or for minor modifications to previously approved research.

Note that research involving greater than minimal risk or prisoners does not qualify for expedited review.

Expedited Review Category #1

Clinical studies of drugs and medical devices only when:

- Research is on drugs for which an investigational new drug application (21 CFR Part 312) is not required (note: Research on marketed drugs that significantly increases the risks or decreases the acceptability of the risks associated with the use of the product is not eligible for expedited review.)
- Research is on medical devices for which:
 - An investigational device exemption application (21 CFR Part 812) is not required
 - The medical device is cleared/approved for marketing and the medical device is being used in accordance with its cleared/approved labeling

Expedited Review Category #2

Collection of blood samples by finger stick, heel stick, ear stick, or venipuncture as follows:

- From healthy, non-pregnant adults who weigh at least 110 pounds (note: the amounts drawn may not exceed 550 ml in an 8 week period and collection may not occur more frequently than 2 times per week)
- From other adults and children, considering the age, weight, and health of the subjects, the collection procedure, the amount of blood to be collected, and the frequency with which it will be collected (note: the amount drawn may not exceed the lesser of 50 ml or 3 ml per kg in an 8 week period and collection may not occur more frequently than 2 times per week)

Expedited Review Category #3

Prospective collection of biological specimens for research purposes by noninvasive means.

Examples include:

- *Hair and nail clippings in a non-disfiguring manner*
- *Deciduous teeth at time of exfoliation or if routine patient care indicates a need for extraction*
- *Permanent teeth if routine patient care indicates a need for extraction*
- *Excreta and external secretions (including sweat)*
- *Uncannulated saliva collected either in an unstimulated fashion or stimulated by chewing gumbase or wax or by applying a dilute citric solution to the tongue*
- *Placenta removed at delivery*
- *Amniotic fluid obtained at the time of rupture of the membrane prior to or during labor*
- *Supra- and subgingival dental plaque and calculus, provided the collection procedure is not more invasive than routine prophylactic scaling of the teeth and the process is accomplished in accordance with accepted prophylactic techniques*
- *Mucosal and skin cells collected by buccal scraping or swab, skin swab, or mouth washings*
- *Sputum collected after saline mist nebulization*

Expedited Review Category #4

Collection of data on subjects 18 years of age or older through noninvasive procedures (not involving general anesthesia or sedation) routinely employed in clinical practice, excluding procedures involving x-rays or microwaves. Where medical devices are employed, they must be cleared/approved for marketing (note: studies intended to evaluate the safety and effectiveness of the medical device are not generally eligible for expedited review, including studies of cleared medical devices for new indications.)

Examples include:

- *Physical sensors that are applied either to the surface of the body or at a distance and do not involve input of significant amounts of energy into the subject or an invasion of the subject's privacy*
- *Weighing or testing sensory acuity*
- *Magnetic resonance imaging*
- *Electrocardiography, electroencephalography, thermography, detection of naturally occurring radioactivity, electroretinography, ultrasound, diagnostic infrared imaging, doppler blood flow, and echocardiography*
- *Moderate exercise, muscular strength testing, body composition assessment, and flexibility testing where appropriate given the age, weight, and health of the individual*

Expedited Review Category #5

Research involving materials (data, documents, records, or specimens) that have been collected, or will be collected solely for nonresearch purposes (such as medical treatment or diagnosis) (note: some research in this category may be exempt from the HHS regulations for the protection of human subjects. 45 CFR 46.101(b)(4). This listing refers only to research that is not exempt.)

Expedited Review Category #6

Collection of data from voice, video, digital, or image recordings made for research purposes.

Expedited Review Category #7

Research on individual or group characteristics or behavior (including, but not limited to, research on perception, cognition, motivation, identity, language, communication, cultural beliefs or practices, and social behavior) or research employing survey, interview, oral history, focus group, program evaluation, human factors evaluation, or quality assurance methodologies. (Note: Some research in this category may be exempt from the HHS regulations for the protection of human subjects. 45 CFR 46.101(b)(2) and (b)(3). This listing refers only to research that is not exempt.)

Expedited Review Category #8

Continuing review of research previously approved by the convened IRB as follows:

- Where the research is permanently closed to the enrollment of new subjects; (ii) all subjects have completed all research-related interventions; and (iii) the research remains active only for long-term follow-up of subjects
- Where no subjects have been enrolled and no additional risks have been identified
- Where the remaining research activities are limited to data analysis

Expedited Review Category #9

Continuing review of research, not conducted under an investigational new drug application or investigational device exemption where categories 2-8 do not apply but the IRB has determined and documented at a convened meeting that the research involves no greater than minimal risk and no additional risks have been identified

Note: The expedited review procedure may not be used where:

Identification of the subjects and/or their responses would reasonably place them at risk of criminal or civil liability or be damaging to the subjects' financial standing, employability, insurability, reputation, or be stigmatizing, unless reasonable and appropriate protections will be implemented so that risks related to invasion of privacy and breach of confidentiality are no greater than minimal.