1. PURPOSE
The purpose of this standard operating procedure (SOP) is to describe the Non-Medical Research Ethics Board (NMREB) submission requirements, and the administrative review procedures conducted by the Office of Human Research Ethics (OHRE). This SOP applies to all submissions including but not limited to: new research projects for initial review, amendments or modifications to approved research and any new information.

2. GENERAL POLICY STATEMENT
NMREB members must rely on the documentation provided by the principal investigator for initial and continuing review. Therefore, the materials submitted must provide sufficient information to conduct the review and make the required determinations.

The NMREB is supported by administrative procedures that assure that NMREB members not only have adequate time for assessment of proposed research, but that the materials they receive allow them to adequately assess whether the research meets the criteria for NMREB approval.

3. RESPONSIBILITY
This SOP applies to the all NMREB members including the Chair and Vice-Chair(s) and to all OHRE staff.

4. DEFINITIONS
See Glossary of Terms

5. SPECIFIC POLICIES AND PROCEDURES.
The OHRE is responsible for maintaining the submission requirements and for making such information available to investigators. The instructions to investigators regarding submission requirements, including deadlines and meeting dates, are available on the OHRE webpages or by contacting the OHRE.

5.1. Submission Requirements
5.1.1. The required documents, checklists, format and submission procedures are outlined on the OHRE webpages including but not limited to:
   • Letter of Information/Consent (LOI/C) Guidance Document
   • Online submission manuals
   • Unanticipated problem reporting guidelines
• Distinguishing between quality assurance/improvement & research guidelines
• Data security and confidentiality guidelines
• Recruitment material templates

5.2. Administrative Review Procedures

5.2.1. All applications can be viewed in the online system by the OHRE staff as soon as they are submitted by the Investigator or designee;

5.2.2. The unique system-generated number is assigned automatically to each submission at the time the application is created;

5.2.3. Upon receipt of the submission in the online WREM system, the responsible OHRE Administrative Staff conducts a preliminary review to ensure completeness of the application, including validation of the appropriate attachments to ensure that the review type is correct and eligibility of the PI;

5.2.4. If the submission is incomplete (e.g., documents are missing or incorrect documents were uploaded), the EO may route it back to the Investigator/study staff within the online system to make the necessary changes and to resubmit the revisions, time permitting;

5.2.5. Upon receipt of a complete submission, the EO assesses the submission to determine the level of review needed, and the submission is then assigned to appropriate reviewer(s) for either Full Board or delegated review;

5.2.6. For submissions requiring Full Board review, the submissions are posted to the agenda of the next Full Board meeting;

5.2.7. For submissions requiring Delegated review, the delegated reviewer may delegate the approval decision to the EO pending adequate responses to the recommendations.

6. REFERENCES


6.3. OHRP Guidance on Written IRB Procedures;

7. SOP HISTORY

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<td>N301.001</td>
<td>Original</td>
<td>12/07/2015</td>
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<tr>
<td>N301.002</td>
<td>Updates to NMREB Chair and online submission system</td>
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