

May 28, 2020

Re: Human subject research and COVID-19 situation

Dear Colleagues,

The health and safety of our University of Toledo and regional communities continues to be top priority during the COVID-19 pandemic. This is an update on my prior letters, dated March 17, 2020 and April 22, 2020, regarding temporary restrictions on human subject research. While there has been an ease of restrictions on face-to-face interactions with human research participants in some clinical trials, the pause on face-to-face human subjects research will continue until further notice. We will continuously evaluate the restrictions.

**As of May 31, 2020**, there will be an additional ease of restrictions on face-to-face interactions with human subjects in clinical trials that take place in a common medical setting (e.g., hospital, clinic, dental office, etc.). **If your study takes place in a medical setting, you can request the IRB to determine if face-to-face interactions are appropriate at this time given the research pause.** Decisions are based on potential benefits of the study versus increased risk to participants due to COVID-19. You can find more information on this request procedure on the [COVID-19 Research Guidance website](#).

I encourage you to visit the [COVID-19 website \(Research Guidance\)](#). This webpage is updated regularly and will be the source of ongoing guidance in this evolving situation. You can also contact the [Human Research Protection Program \(HRPP\)](#) for guidance.

Sincerely,



Frank J. Calzonetti  
Vice President for Research