

January 5, 2021

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 regarding temporary restrictions on human subject research.

Local and statewide cases of COVID-19 have increased substantially over the last few months. Therefore, **starting January 5, 2021, I am reinstating the pause on non-essential face-to-face research with human subjects that does not take place in a common medical setting (e.g., hospital, clinic, dental office, etc.).** This decision will be reevaluated monthly.

If you have an **essential** study that is NOT taking place in a common medical setting or if you are unsure whether your study takes place in a common medical setting, please contact your [IRB Analyst](#).

Studies, or portions of studies, involving **no face-to-face** interactions with participants may continue (e.g., tissue collection for subjects undergoing standard care, secondary data analysis, remote or online contact, etc.).

As a reminder, for the purposes of this pause, **essential** research studies are defined as those that are contributory to the immediate health and well-being of the participant, as well as human subject research on COVID-19.

I encourage you to visit the [COVID-19 website \(Research Guidance\)](#). This webpage continues to be updated regularly and will be the source of ongoing guidance in this evolving situation.

Sincerely,



Frank J. Calzonetti  
Vice President for Research