September 3, 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, April 22, 2020 and May 28, 2020 regarding temporary restrictions on human subject research.

Starting September 1, 2020, there will be an additional easing of restrictions on face-to-face interactions with human subjects. The two scenarios not yet addressed in other letters are: (i.) non-essential research taking place in a typical medical setting where there is additional researcher/participant scheduled visit(s) required to participate in the study and (ii.) non-essential studies that do not take place in a typical medical setting. See the accompanying document titled “UToledo IRB Guidelines: Resuming Non-Essential Face-to-Face Human Subject Research Activities”.

You can find more information on this request procedure on the COVID-19 Research Guidance website. This web page 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, Ph.D.
Vice President for Research