IRB Reviewer Checklist for Research with Prisoners

Reviewer: Date:
IRB#: PI:

	Location in eIRB	Regulatory Criteria	Response	Comments	Addressed
1	The research under review represents one of the categories of research below.				
	☐	Study of the possible causes, effects, and processes of incarceration, and of criminal behavior, provided that the study presents no more than minimal risk and no more than inconvenience to the subjects			
	☐	Study of prisons as institutional structures or of prisoners as incarcerated persons provided that the study presents no more than minimal risk and no more than inconvenience to the subjects.			
	☐	Research on conditions particularly affecting prisoners as a class (for example, vaccine trials and other research on hepatitis which is much more prevalent in prisons that elsewhere; and research on social and psychological problems such as alcoholism, drug addiction, and sexual assaults) provided that the study may proceed only after the Secretary has consulted with appropriate experts including experts in penology, medicine, and ethics, and published notice in the Federal Register, of his intent to approve such research			
	☐	Research on practices, both innovative and accepted, which have the intent and reasonable probability of improving the health or well-being of the subject. In cases in which those studies require the assignment of prisoners in a manner consistent with protocols approved by the IRB to control groups which may not benefit from the research, the study may proceed only after the Secretary has consulted with appropriate experts, including experts in penology, medicine, and ethics, and published notice, in the Federal Register of the intent to approve such research			
2	Any possible advantages accruing to prisoners through his or her participation in the research when compared to the general living conditions, medical care, quality of food, amenities and opportunity for earnings in the prison, are not of such a magnitude that his or her ability to weigh the risks of the research against the value of such advantages in the limited choice environment of the prison impaired		☐Yes ☐No ☐N/A ☐ Waived		
3	The risks involved in the research are commensurate with risks that would be accepted by non-prisoner volunteers		☐Yes ☐No ☐N/A ☐ Waived		
4	Procedures for the selection of subjects within the prison are fair to all prisoners		☐Yes ☐No		

	and immune from arbitrary intervention by prison authorities or prisoners. Unless the principal investigator provides to the IRB justification in writing for following some other procedures, control subjects must be selected randomly from the group or available prisoners who meet the characteristics needed for the particular research project	☐N/A ☐ Waived		
5	The information is presented in a language which is understandable to the subject population	☐Yes ☐No ☐N/A ☐ Waived		
6	Adequate assurance exists that parole boards will not take into account a prisoner's participation in the research in making decisions regarding parole, and each prisoner is clearly informed in advance that participation in the research will have no effect on his or her parole	☐Yes ☐No ☐N/A ☐ Waived		
7	There may be a need for follow-up examination for care of participants after the end of their participation, adequate provision has been made for such examination or care, taking into account the varying lengths of individual prisoners' sentences, and for informing participants of this fact	☐Yes ☐No ☐N/A ☐ Waived		