

IRB GUIDANCE FOR REVIEW OF QUALITY ASSURANCE AND QUALITY IMPROVEMENT ACTIVITIES

Summary/Purpose: Lists certain types of human subjects research that may not require Institutional Review Board (IRB) review or applications.

- All human subjects research requires an application to the IRB
- Quality assurance / quality improvement (QA/QI) could be considered research by the federal regulations
- The IRB has determined that certain forms of QA/QI activities may not require IRB applications:
 - Teaching, Faculty and Staff evaluations (However, research on such evaluations *would* require IRB review)
 - Performance evaluations
 - Institutional program review
 - Classroom assessment
 - Curriculum review
 - Strategic planning
 - Performance improvement research conducted exclusively by Athletics Department personnel (However, Athletics Department research that includes faculty as investigators *would* require IRB review)

Investigators whose activity meets these standards need to contact the IRB office, irb@olemiss.edu, for review and determination.