

# **St. Louis IRB Consortium**

## **Charter**

### **DOCUMENT INFORMATION**

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DATE DOCUMENT PRODUCED: May 2002

HOW TO OBTAIN THE DOCUMENT: Contact Washington, Human Research Protection Office at 314-633-7456.

CHANGE HISTORY: Drafted May 2002, Updated January 2008

### **INTRODUCTION**

In Fall 2001, representatives from Washington University Human Research Protection Office traveled to Kansas City, Missouri to visit the IRB Consortium started by the Midwest Bioethics Center. St. John's Mercy Medical Center, the Veterans' Administration, and Saint Louis University were approached with the idea of starting a consortium in St. Louis. The idea was well received and the St. Louis IRB Consortium was established.

### **MISSION**

The purpose of the St. Louis IRB Consortium is to provide a forum where local IRB staff and members can meet to share ideas and educational opportunities; discuss regulations and ethics governing research; assist each other with problem solving.

### **ORGANIZATION**

Currently, the Washington University Human Research Protection Office is serving as the nucleus of the Consortium. The nucleus institution is responsible for setting meeting dates, times, and locations; preparing the agenda for meetings; preparing meeting minutes; notifying member institutions of information sent to the Consortium; managing the budget; and ensuring the cohesion of the organization.

All member institutions appoint a point person who serves as the primary contact person for that member institution. The point person is responsible for information flow to and from the Consortium as well as notifying members at their institution of Consortium

activities. Point people also assist the nucleus organization in identifying topics and presenters for meetings and events.

## **MEMBERSHIP**

Membership is open to all local IRBs their staffs, committee members and other interested parties. Member institutions may be asked to host Consortium meetings or events. Members are asked to support the efforts of the Consortium. Currently, there is no membership fee but this may be instituted in the future.

## **RESOURCES**

The St. Louis IRB Consortium was started with funding provided by Washington University, the Veterans' Administration, St. John's Mercy Medical Center, and Saint Louis University. As a result, funds are limited and an institutional membership fee may be instituted in the future to cover costs of meetings and events.

Member organizations are encouraged to share information and resources.