

PROTOCOL TITLE:

INSTRUCTIONS:

- Use “*TEMPLATE SBS PROTOCOL (OCR-903a)*” to prepare a document with the information from the following sections.
- Depending on the nature of your study, some sections may not be applicable to your research. If so mark as “NA”. For example, research involving a retrospective chart review may have many sections with “NA.” For subsections, like 1.x or 8.x, you can delete it if it’s not applicable.
- When you write a protocol, keep an electronic copy. You will need to modify this copy when making changes.
- As you are writing the protocol, remove all instructions in italics so that they are not contained in the final version of your protocol.
- Omit starred (*) items if this is the activation of a protocol at a new site or sites that will be overseen by a principal investigator who will take separate and full responsibility for that site or those sites. Complete by describing information specific to the site(s). Do not repeat information in the approved protocol that applies to all site(s).

PROTOCOL TITLE:

Include the full protocol title.

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR:

*Name
Department
Telephone Number
Email Address*

VERSION NUMBER/DATE:

Include the version number and date of this protocol.

REVISION HISTORY

Revision #	Version Date	Summary of Changes	Consent Change?

PROTOCOL TITLE:

Table of Contents

1.0	Study Summary.....	3
2.0	Objectives*	4
3.0	Background*	4
4.0	Study Endpoints*	4
5.0	Study Intervention/Investigational Agent	4
6.0	Procedures Involved*.....	4
7.0	Data and Specimen Banking*	4
8.0	Sharing of Results with Subjects*	5
9.0	Study Timelines*	5
10.0	Inclusion and Exclusion Criteria*	5
11.0	Vulnerable Populations*	5
12.0	Local Number of Subjects	6
13.0	Recruitment Methods.....	6
14.0	Withdrawal of Subjects*	6
15.0	Risks to Subjects*	6
16.0	Potential Benefits to Subjects*	7
17.0	Data Management* and Confidentiality	7
18.0	Provisions to Monitor the Data to Ensure the Safety of Subjects*	7
19.0	Provisions to Protect the Privacy Interests of Subjects.....	8
20.0	Compensation for Research-Related Injury	8
21.0	Economic Burden to Subjects	8
22.0	Consent Process	8
23.0	Process to Document Consent in Writing.....	11
24.0	Setting	11
25.0	Resources Available.....	12
26.0	Multi-Site Research*	12

PROTOCOL TITLE:

1.0 Study Summary

Study Title	
Study Design	
Primary Objective	
Secondary Objective(s)	
Research Intervention(s)	
Study Population	
Sample Size	
Study Duration for individual participants	
Study Specific Abbreviations/ Definitions	

PROTOCOL TITLE:

2.0 Objectives*

2.1 *Describe the purpose, specific aims, or objectives.*

2.2 *State the hypotheses to be tested.*

3.0 Background*

3.1 *Describe the relevant prior experience and gaps in current knowledge.*

3.2 *Describe any relevant preliminary data.*

3.3 *Provide the scientific or scholarly background for, rationale for, and significance of the research based on the existing literature and how will it add to existing knowledge.*

4.0 Study Endpoints*

4.1 *Describe the primary and secondary study endpoints.*

5.0 Study Intervention

1.1 Description: *Describe the study intervention that is being evaluated.*

-

6.0 Procedures Involved*

6.1 *Describe and explain the study design.*

6.2 *Provide a description of all research procedures being performed and when they are performed, including procedures being performed to monitor subjects for safety or minimize risks.*

6.3 *Describe:*

- *Procedures performed to lessen the probability or magnitude of risks.*
- *The source records that will be used to collect data about subjects. (Attach all surveys, scripts, and data collection forms.)*

6.4 *What data will be collected during the study and how that data will be obtained.*

6.5 *If there are plans for long-term follow-up (once all research related procedures are complete), what data will be collected during this period.*

7.0 Data and Specimen Banking*

7.1 *If data or specimens will be banked for future use, describe where the specimens will be stored, how long they will be stored, how the*

PROTOCOL TITLE:

specimens will be accessed, and who will have access to the specimens.

7.2 *List the data to be stored or associated with each specimen.*

7.3 *Describe the procedures to release data or specimens, including: the process to request a release, approvals required for release, who can obtain data or specimens, and the data to be provided with specimens.*

8.0 Sharing of Results with Subjects*

8.1 *Describe whether results (study results or individual subject results, such as results of investigational diagnostic tests, genetic tests, or incidental findings) will be shared with subjects or others (e.g., the subject's primary care physicians) and if so, describe how the results will be shared.*

9.0 Study Timelines*

9.1 *Describe:*

- *The duration of an individual subject's participation in the study.*
- *The duration anticipated to enroll all study subjects.*

10.0 Subject Population*

10.1 *Describe generally the individuals that will be included in your study.*

10.2 *Describe any subject populations that will be specifically targeted, or specifically excluded from your sample.*

10.3 *Indicate specifically whether you will include or exclude any of the following special populations: (You may not include members of these populations as subjects in your research unless you include them in the description of your subject population.)*

- *Adults unable to consent*
- *Individuals who are not yet adults (infants, children, teenagers)*
- *Pregnant women*
- *Prisoners*

11.0 Vulnerable Populations*

11.1 *If the research involves individuals who are vulnerable to coercion or undue influence, describe additional safeguards included to protect their rights and welfare.*

- *If the research involves pregnant women, review "CHECKLIST: Pregnant Women (OCR-412)" to ensure that you have provided sufficient information.*

PROTOCOL TITLE:

- *If the research involves neonates, review “CHECKLIST: Neonates (OCR-413)” to ensure that you have provided sufficient information.*
- *If the research involves prisoners, review “CHECKLIST: Prisoners (OCR-415)” to ensure that you have provided sufficient information.*
- *If the research involves persons who have not attained the legal age for consent to treatments or procedures involved in the research (“children”), review the “CHECKLIST: Children (OCR-416)” to ensure that you have provided sufficient information.*
- *If the research involves cognitively impaired adults, review “CHECKLIST: Cognitively Impaired Adults (OCR-417)” to ensure that you have provided sufficient information.*

12.0 Local Number of Subjects

12.1 Indicate the total number of subjects to be accrued locally, if known.

13.0 Recruitment Methods

13.1 Describe when, where, and how potential subjects will be recruited.

13.2 Describe the source of subjects.

13.3 Describe the methods that will be used to identify potential subjects.

13.4 Describe materials that will be used to recruit subjects. (Attach copies of these documents with the application. For advertisements, attach the final copy of printed advertisements. When advertisements are taped for broadcast, attach the final audio/video tape. You may submit the wording of the advertisement prior to taping to preclude re-taping because of inappropriate wording, provided the IRB reviews the final audio/video tape.)

13.5 Describe the amount and timing of any payments to subjects.

14.0 Withdrawal of Subjects*

14.1 Describe anticipated circumstances under which subjects will be withdrawn from the research without their consent.

14.2 Describe procedures that will be followed when subjects withdraw from the research, including partial withdrawal from procedures with continued data collection.

15.0 Risks to Subjects*

15.1 List the reasonably foreseeable risks, discomforts, hazards, or inconveniences to the subjects related the subjects’ participation in the research. Include as may be useful for the IRB’s consideration, a description of the probability, magnitude, duration, and reversibility

PROTOCOL TITLE:

of the risks. Consider physical, psychological, social, legal, and economic risks.

15.2 *If applicable, indicate which procedures may have risks to the subjects that are currently unforeseeable.*

15.3 *If applicable, indicate which procedures may have risks to an embryo or fetus should the subject be or become pregnant.*

15.4 *If applicable, describe risks to others who are not subjects.*

16.0 Potential Benefits to Subjects*

16.1 *Describe the potential benefits that individual subjects may experience from taking part in the research. Include as may be useful for the IRB's consideration, the probability, magnitude, and duration of the potential benefits.*

16.2 *Indicate if there is no direct benefit. Do not include benefits to society or others.*

17.0 Data Management* and Confidentiality

17.1 *Describe the data analysis plan, including any statistical procedures or power analysis.*

17.2 *Describe the steps that will be taken to secure the data (e.g., training, authorization of access, password protection, encryption, physical controls, certificates of confidentiality, and separation of identifiers and data) during storage, use, and transmission.*

17.3 *Describe any procedures that will be used for quality control of collected data.*

17.4 *Describe how data or specimens will be handled study-wide:*

- *What information will be included in that data or associated with the specimens?*
- *Where and how data or specimens will be stored?*
- *How long the data or specimens will be stored?*
- *Who will have access to the data or specimens?*
- *Who is responsible for receipt or transmission of the data or specimens?*
- *How data or specimens will be transported?*

18.0 Provisions to Monitor the Data to Ensure the Safety of Subjects*

This section is required when research involves more than Minimal Risk to subjects.

18.1 *Describe:*

- *The plan to periodically evaluate the data collected regarding both harms and benefits to determine whether subjects remain safe. The plan might include establishing a data monitoring*

PROTOCOL TITLE:

committee and a plan for reporting data monitoring committee findings to the IRB and the sponsor.

- *What data are reviewed, including safety data, untoward events, and efficacy data.*
- *How the safety information will be collected (e.g., with case report forms, at study visits, by telephone calls with participants).*
- *The frequency of data collection, including when safety data collection starts.*
- *Who will review the data.*
- *The frequency or periodicity of review of cumulative data.*
- *The statistical tests for analyzing the safety data to determine whether harm is occurring.*
- *Any conditions that trigger an immediate suspension of the research.*

19.0 Provisions to Protect the Privacy Interests of Subjects

19.1 Describe the steps that will be taken to protect subjects' privacy interests. "Privacy interest" refers to a person's desire to place limits on whom they interact or whom they provide personal information.

19.2 Describe what steps you will take to make the subjects feel at ease with the research situation in terms of the questions being asked and the procedures being performed. "At ease" does not refer to physical discomfort, but the sense of intrusiveness a subject might experience in response to questions, examinations, and procedures.

19.3 Indicate how the research team is permitted to access any sources of information about the subjects.

20.0 Compensation for Research-Related Injury

20.1 If the research involves more than Minimal Risk to subjects, describe the available compensation in the event of research related injury.

20.2 Provide a copy of contract language, if any, relevant to compensation for research-related injury.

21.0 Economic Burden to Subjects

21.1 Describe any costs that subjects may be responsible for because of participation in the research.

22.0 Consent Process

22.1 Indicate whether you will be obtaining consent, and if so describe:

- *Where will the consent process take place.*
- *Any process to ensure ongoing consent.*

PROTOCOL TITLE:

- *Whether you will be following “SOP: Informed Consent Process for Research (OCR-090).” If not, describe:*
 - *The role of the individuals listed in the application as being involved in the consent process.*
 - *The time that will be devoted to the consent discussion.*
 - *Steps that will be taken to minimize the possibility of coercion or undue influence.*
 - *Steps that will be taken to ensure the subjects’ understanding.*

Non-English Speaking Subjects

- *Indicate what language(s) other than English are understood by prospective subjects or representatives.*
- *If subjects who do not speak English will be enrolled, describe the process to ensure that the oral and written information provided to those subjects will be in that language. Indicate the language that will be used by those obtaining consent.*

Waiver or Alteration of Consent Process (consent will not be obtained, required information will not be disclosed, or the research involves deception)

- *Review the “CHECKLIST: Waiver or Alteration of Consent Process (OCR-410)” to ensure you have provided sufficient information for the IRB to make these determinations.*

Subjects who are not yet adults (infants, children, teenagers)

- *Describe the criteria that will be used to determine whether a prospective subject has not attained the legal age for consent to treatments or procedures involved in the research under the applicable law of the jurisdiction in which the research will be conducted. (E.g., individuals under the age of 18 years.)*
 - *For research conducted in the state, review “SOP: Legally Authorized Representatives, Children, and Guardians (OCR-013)” to be aware of which individuals in the state meet the definition of “children.”*
 - *For research conducted outside of the state, provide information that describes which persons have not attained the legal age for consent to treatments or procedures involved the research, under the applicable law of the jurisdiction in which research will be conducted. One method of obtaining this information is to have a legal counsel or authority review your protocol along the definition of “children” in “SOP: Legally*

PROTOCOL TITLE:

Authorized Representatives, Children, and Guardians (OCR-013).”

- *Describe whether parental permission will be obtained from:*
 - *Both parents unless one parent is deceased, unknown, incompetent, or not reasonably available, or when only one parent has legal responsibility for the care and custody of the child.*
 - *One parent even if the other parent is alive, known, competent, reasonably available, and shares legal responsibility for the care and custody of the child.*
- *Describe whether permission will be obtained from individuals other than parents, and if so, who will be allowed to provide permission. Describe the process used to determine these individuals’ authority to consent to each child’s general medical care.*
- *Indicate whether assent will be obtained from all, some, or none of the children. If assent will be obtained from some children, indicate which children will be required to assent.*
- *When assent of children is obtained describe whether and how it will be documented.*

Cognitively Impaired Adults

- *Describe the process to determine whether an individual is capable of consent. The IRB allows the person obtaining assent to document assent on the consent document and does not routinely require assent documents and does not routinely require children to sign assent documents.*

Adults Unable to Consent

- *List the individuals from whom permission will be obtained in order of priority. (E.g., durable power of attorney for health care, court appointed guardian for health care decisions, spouse, and adult child.)*
 - *For research conducted in the state, review “SOP: Legally Authorized Representatives, Children, and Guardians (OCR-013)” to be aware of which individuals in the state meet the definition of “legally authorized representative.”*
 - *For research conducted outside of the state, provide information that describes which individuals are authorized under applicable law to consent on behalf of a prospective subject to their participation in the procedure(s) involved in this research. One method of obtaining this information is to have a legal counsel or*

PROTOCOL TITLE:

authority review your protocol along the definition of “legally authorized representative” in “SOP: Legally Authorized Representatives, Children, and Guardians (OCR-013).”

- *Describe the process for assent of the subjects. Indicate whether:
 - *Assent will be required of all, some, or none of the subjects. If some, indicated, which subjects will be required to assent and which will not.*
 - *If assent will not be obtained from some or all subjects, an explanation of why not.*
 - *Describe whether assent of the subjects will be documented and the process to document assent. The IRB allows the person obtaining assent to document assent on the consent document and does not routinely require assent documents and does not routinely require subjects to sign assent documents.**

Adults Unable to Consent

- *For HUD uses provide a description of how the patient will be informed of the potential risks and benefits of the HUD and any procedures associated with its use.*

23.0 Process to Document Consent in Writing

23.1 Describe whether you will be following “SOP: Written Documentation of Consent (OCR-091).” If not, describe whether and how consent of the subject will be documented in writing.

23.2 If your research presents no more than minimal risk of harm to subjects and involves no procedures for which written documentation of consent is normally required outside of the research context, the IRB will generally waive the requirement to obtain written documentation of consent.

23.3 (If you will document consent in writing, attach a consent document. If you will obtain consent, but not document consent in writing, attach a consent script. Review “CHECKLIST: Waiver of Written Documentation of Consent (OCR-411)” to ensure that you have provided sufficient information. You may use “TEMPLATE CONSENT DOCUMENT (OCR-502)” to create the consent document or script.)

24.0 Setting

24.1 Describe the sites or locations where your research team will conduct the research.

PROTOCOL TITLE:

- *Identify where your research team will identify and recruit potential subjects.*
- *Identify where research procedures will be performed.*
- *Describe the composition and involvement of any community advisory board.*
- *For research conducted outside of the organization and its affiliates describe:*
 - *Site-specific regulations or customs affecting the research for research outside the organization.*
 - *Local scientific and ethical review structure outside the organization.*

25.0 Resources Available

25.1 Describe the resources available to conduct the research: For example, as appropriate:

- *Justify the feasibility of recruiting the required number of suitable subjects within the agreed recruitment period. For example, how many potential subjects do you have access to? What percentage of those potential subjects do you need to recruit?*
- *Describe the time that you will devote to conducting and completing the research.*
- *Describe your facilities.*
- *Describe the availability of medical or psychological resources that subjects might need as a result of an anticipated consequences of the human research.*
- *Describe your process to ensure that all persons assisting with the research are adequately informed about the protocol, the research procedures, and their duties and functions.*

26.0 Multi-Site Research* (Delete this section if this is not a Multi-Site Research Study.)

*26.1 Study-Wide Number of Subjects**

If this is a multicenter study, indicate the total number of subjects to be accrued across all sites.

*26.2 Study-Wide Recruitment Methods**

- *If this is a multicenter study and subjects will be recruited by methods not under the control of the local site (e.g., call centers, national advertisements) describe those methods. Local recruitment methods are described later in the protocol.*
- *Describe when, where, and how potential subjects will be recruited.*
- *Describe the methods that will be used to identify potential subjects.*

PROTOCOL TITLE:

- *Describe materials that will be used to recruit subjects. (Attach copies of these documents with the application. For advertisements, attach the final copy of printed advertisements. When advertisements are taped for broadcast, attach the final audio/video tape. You may submit the wording of the advertisement prior to taping to preclude re-taping because of inappropriate wording, provided the IRB reviews the final audio/video tape.)*
- *If this is a multi-site study where you are the lead investigator, describe the processes to ensure communication among sites. See “WORKSHEET: Communication and Responsibilities (OCR-830).” All sites have the most current version of the protocol, consent document, and HIPAA authorization.*
- *All required approvals (initial, continuing review and modifications) have been obtained at each site (including approval by the site’s IRB of record).*
- *All modifications have been communicated to sites, and approved (including approval by the site’s IRB of record) before the modification is implemented.*
- *All engaged participating sites will safeguard data, including secure transmission of data, as required by local information security policies.*
 - *All local site investigators conduct the study in accordance with applicable federal regulations and local laws.*
- *All non-compliance with the study protocol or applicable requirements will reported in accordance with local policy.*

26.3 *Describe the method for communicating to engaged participating sites (see “WORKSHEET: Communication and Responsibilities (OCR-830)”):*

- *Problems (inclusive of reportable events).*
- *Interim results.*
- *The closure of a study*

26.4 *If this is a multicenter study where you are a participating site/investigator, describe the local procedures for maintenance of confidentiality. (See “WORKSHEET: Communication and Responsibilities (OCR-830).”)*

- *Where and how data or specimens will be stored locally?*
- *How long the data or specimens will be stored locally?*
- *Who will have access to the data or specimens locally?*
- *Who is responsible for receipt or transmission of the data or specimens locally?*
- *How data and specimens will be transported locally?*