



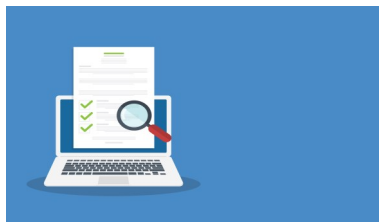
# IRB 360 NEWSLETTER

Connecting Research with Ethics



## Collaborative Institutional Training Initiative (CITI) Certification

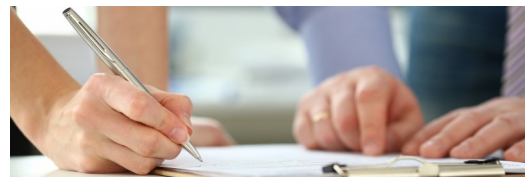
CITI certifications are valid for only 3 years. If you intend to continue conducting human subjects research – be it existing IRB-approved research, or a new study – your CITI certification must be renewed **every 3 years** (upon expiration) by completing the shorter CITI **‘Refresher’ course**. Details on how to access can be found [here](#).



## Human Biomedical Research Act (HBRA) Certification

If you are involved in the conduct of [human biomedical research](#) and/or [tissue banking activities](#) (as defined in the HBRA), it is mandatory for you to obtain certification by completing NTU’s ‘Human Biomedical Research Act (HBRA) Programme’. Instructions on how to access this online course can be found [here](#).

## HBRA REQUIREMENTS Witness to Consent



Under the HBRA, [any appropriate consent must be taken in the presence of a witness](#). The witness must take reasonable steps to ascertain:

- a) the identity of the individual giving the appropriate consent; and
- b) that the consent was given voluntarily without any coercion or intimidation.



**Requirement for Consent to be Obtained in the Presence of a Prescribed Witness can be Exempted:**

### If the research is:

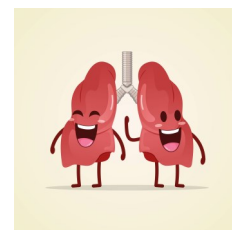
- a) not invasive;
- b) not interventional;  
and
- c) not restricted human biomedical research.

### Or if:

- a) the research is interventional but the intervention involves no more than minimal risk to the research subject;
- b) research subject is able to read and sign the appropriate consent form; and
- c) the research is not restricted human biomedical research (rHBR).

If consent is sought from a tissue donor (for tissue banking activities under HBRA), the requirement for the presence of a prescribed witness can be exempted if the:

- a) removal of the tissue involves no more than minimal risk to the tissue donor;
- b) tissue donor is able to read and sign the appropriate consent form; and
- c) appropriate consent is not for the purpose of rHBR.



**ANNOUNCEMENT**

If you are unable to access ERMP because  
**‘Your account is not valid or Access denied’**  
submit the online [User Access Request Form](#) using your  
NTU/NIE email to request for an account/access.



**Stay tuned for our next newsletter to learn more!**

To subscribe to our mailing list and for further queries, please write to [IRB@ntu.edu.sg](mailto:IRB@ntu.edu.sg)

Brought to you by:  
**Research Integrity and Ethics Office (RIEO)**

Refer to our website for more information on **IRB Guidelines** [here](#).