



New Educational Curriculum for Human Subject Research

The UB Human Research Protection Program is pleased to announce a new educational curriculum that will significantly improve the quality of human research protection education at UB. On-line courses developed by the Collaborative IRB Training Initiative (CITI) have become recognized as the premier vehicle for human research protection education. Since CITI's inception in 2000, tens of thousands of individuals from more than 600 institutions have completed CITI courses. These organizations include universities, medical research centers, government agencies, healthcare systems, pharmaceutical companies and health-related foundations. Prominent universities employing CITI include Stanford, Duke, Michigan State, Dartmouth, Emory, Johns Hopkins, Ohio State, Purdue, UC-Berkeley, Chicago, Connecticut, Iowa, Michigan and Southern California. Among medical research centers, Children's Hospital - Boston, the Cleveland Clinic, and Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center are notable CITI users. In addition to Human Research Protection courses, CITI also offers courses in Responsible Conduct in Research, Health Information and Security and Laboratory Animal Welfare (available May, 2007).

One of CITI's most significant advantages is in offering distinct biomedical and social and behavioral science tracks as well as refresher courses in these areas that will be offered every 3 years. The CITI Biomedical Research Basic Course consists of 15 modules including foundational modules on the history, ethics and regulations affecting human subject research and specialized topic modules covering FDA-regulated research, records based research, and genetic research. The CITI Basic Course in Social & Behavioral Sciences Research also consists of 15 modules with special topic modules such as internet research, confidentiality and privacy, international research and research in public elementary and secondary schools. Both courses have UB specific modules. CITI courses are easy to use and may be completed in more than one sitting. Each module is self-contained and includes a set of questions. The overall passing grade is 80% and modules may be repeated. As a bonus, continuing education credits are available for professionals in the fields of medicine, nursing and psychology.

After **September 1, 2007**, completion of CITI Basic Courses by investigators and key research personnel will become a requirement for IRB approval of new and continuing protocols. The CITI Biomedical Research Basic Course will fulfill the educational requirements of the UB Children & Youth and Health Sciences IRBs. The CITI Social & Behavioral Sciences Basic Course will fulfill the educational requirements of the UB Social & Behavioral Sciences IRB. CITI is found at www.citiprogram.org.