

SINGAPORE SPORTS INSTITUTE INSTITUTIONAL REVIEW BOARD – Exemption from IRB Review



The chairperson of Singapore Sports Institute's institutional review board or a member authorised by the board may exempt a research proposal from review by the board if the chairperson or authorised member is satisfied that there is no likelihood of harm to the research subjects arising from the research proposal¹.

1. Exemption from Full IRB Review will be considered if the following is applicable²:
 - 1.1 Research conducted in established or commonly accepted educational settings, involving normal educational practices, such as:
 - 1.1.1 Research on regular and special education instructional strategies, or
 - 1.1.2 Research on the effectiveness of or the comparison among instructional techniques, curricula, or classroom management method
 - 1.2 Research involving the use of educational tests (cognitive, diagnostic, aptitude, achievement), survey procedures, interview procedures or observation of public behaviour, unless:
 - 1.2.1 Information obtained is recorded in such a manner that human subjects can be identified, directly or through identifiers linked to the subjects; and
 - 1.2.2 Any disclosure of the human subjects' responses outside the research could reasonably place the subjects at risk of criminal or civil liability or be damaging to the subjects' financial standing, employability, or reputation.
 - 1.3 Research involving the collection or study of existing data, documents, records, pathological specimens, or diagnostic specimens, if these sources are publicly available or if the information is recorded by the investigator in such a manner that subjects cannot be identified, directly or through identifiers linked to the subjects.

¹ Ref: Adapted from the *Human Biomedical Research (Institutional Review Boards) Regulations 2017, Human Biomedical Research Act 2015 (ACT 29 OF 2015)*

² Ref: Adapted from *US Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), Code of Federal Regulations, Title 45 Public Welfare, Part 46, Protection of Human Subjects. Effective 14 July 2009.*

- 1.4 Research and demonstration projects which are conducted by or subject to the approval of department or agency heads, and which are designed to study, evaluate, or otherwise examine:
 - 1.4.1 Public benefit or service programmes;
 - 1.4.2 Procedures for obtaining benefits or services under those programmes;
 - 1.4.3 Possible changes in or alternatives to those programmes or procedures;
 - 1.4.4 Possible changes in methods or levels of payment for benefits or services under those programmes.
- 1.5 Research which have already obtained prior approval from the Ethics Committee of NUS or NTU.
2. No proposal for restricted human biomedical research may be exempted from review.
3. A researcher must submit to the chairperson or the authorised member every application for exemption from review of a research proposal for determination by the chairperson or the authorised member.
4. The chairperson or the authorised member must inform all the members of all research proposals that have been exempted from review.
5. The above guidelines are written to assist applicants in assessing the type of review they may be eligible to apply for. They do not, by any means, represent judging criteria used by the SSI Institutional Review Board or have any impact on the outcome of application and the decisions made by the SSI Institutional Review Board.