

PRACTICE RUNS TRAINING

Temple University IRB

Practice Runs Training Outline

- Defining practice runs
- Purpose of a practice run
- Allowed practice runs
- IRB determinations

What is a Practice Run?

Practice Run (aka Dry Run or Walk Through):

- Investigators and study staff who practice a study or conduct a 'dry run' to ensure feasibility
- Certain activities that the investigator intends to evaluate during a practice run may be prohibited by this policy

Examples of allowed practice runs:

- Practicing interactions (communication or interpersonal contact) between investigator and research personnel acting as a subject
- Peer review of surveys
- Research personnel practicing completing a survey prior to using the survey for data collection

Examples of allowed practice runs:

- Practicing the use of a sphygmomanometer, electronic oral or aural thermometer, or electrode placements for an exercise EKG or EEG placement
- Practicing the collection of saliva samples

Examples of allowed practice runs:

- Verifying clinical equipment/procedures (that carry no risk) for research sponsors to provide assurance of that the research can occur at Temple.
 - Examples include: EKG, spirometry, de-identified photographs, bp, FeNO test, 6-minute walk test.
 - Any data provided to sponsors must be de-identified.

Examples of allowed practice runs:

- Practicing the use of consent forms among research personnel.
 - Mock or fake consent forms must state “draft” or similar language that clearly indicates that the consent form is not IRB approved

Examples of “Prohibited” (without explicit IRB approval) Practice Runs:

- Blood draws
- MRIs
- Use of radiation
- Use of an FDA-regulated drug
- Cardiac stress test

Purpose of a Practice Run:

- Refine the skills of each research staff member
- Enhance protocol training and preparedness
- Offer realistic representations of research experiences
- Identify procedural strengths and weakness
- Increase staff confidence in implementing procedures
- Allow realistic time estimates for procedures

IRB Determinations

- Researchers who are unsure if their activity constitutes a prohibited practice run/walk through must submit a synopsis to the IRB
- Synopsis should be ~1 page and describe the activity
- IRB will provide written documentation
- Submit the synopsis by email to: irb@temple.edu

For any IRB Related Questions?

Please contact the IRB office:

irb@temple.edu

215-707-3390