

# Results: IRB Annual Survey 2016

## Health Sciences Campus

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OPRS hosts an annual survey to better understand the needs of investigators and staff conducting human subjects research at USC. Responses are used to improve the Human Subjects Protection Program (IRB, IRB submission system, and Office for the Protection of Research Subjects).

### Education Ideas

- Procedures to help investigators prepare IRB applications
- Collaborating with external investigators/sites
- Conducting research outside of USC
- Student research FAQ
- Clinical research FAQ
- IRB ed/ guidance on what is or is not a medical device (diagnostic v. therapeutic)
- Biobanking, data sharing, and other aspects of genomic research that are not covered well in the Federal requirements / guidelines / best practices.
- Resources/guidelines for community-based participatory research practices
- Links to EHS information on disposal of blood borne pathogen materials

### Customer Service Requests

- Consistency between IRB reviewers
- Virtual office hours with IRB/OPRS
- Clarified, streamlined requirements for Human Subjects Training

### Non-IRB Requests

- Budget workshop: what is billed to study/insurance and patient education on this
- Template and explanation of how to breakdown a study for budgeting purposes
- More information about the Clinical Research Support Office
- Improvement of ROF
- Improvement of communication between CTO and coordinators
- Reallocation of financial/budget responsibilities back to CTO
- Financial support for researchers/research staff to attend educational conferences
- Educational sessions with CTO.
- Increase CTO staff to alleviate slow processing of amendments.

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### Customer Satisfaction

| Question   | Agree+ Strongly Agree | Disagree+ Strongly Disagree | Don't know/ Not applicable |
|--|-----------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| The IRB is knowledgeable about my discipline.  | 77.32%                | 12.37%                      | 10.31%                     |
| When I contact the IRB by email, I am satisfied with the speed of response.  | 76.68%                | 12.44%                      | 10.88%                     |
| When I contact the IRB by phone, I am satisfied with the speed of response.  | 65.30%                | 11.22%                      | 23.47%                     |
| I am aware of IRB office hours when I can drop in for an in-person appointment.  | 36.79%                | 29.02%                      | 34.20%                     |
| I often contact the IRB before submitting to ask questions so my application will be clear and thorough.                 | 53.33%                | 24.11%                      | 22.56%                     |
| I anticipate review time required between submission and approval (whether my project is exempt, expedited, full board). | 79.38%                | 5.16%                       | 15.46%                     |
| I need more education on IRB approval categories.  | 38.86%                | 49.74%                      | 11.40%                     |
| The IRB is professional and respectful.  | 88.60%                | 5.19%                       | 6.22%                      |
| The IRB reviews applications in a timely fashion.  | 70.25%                | 20.51%                      | 9.23%                      |

### ISTAR Customer Satisfaction

| Question   | Agree+ Strongly | Disagree+ Strongly | Don't Know/Not Applicable |
|--|-----------------|--------------------|---------------------------|
| The ISTAR system is easy to navigate and use.                                  | 71.75%          | 25.58%             | 2.67%                     |
| I have trouble finding approved documents in ISTAR.                            | 29.23%          | 62.69%             | 8.08%                     |
| I find the ISTAR application questions to be intuitive and easy to understand. | 67.43%          | 26.06%             | 6.51%                     |

### Respondent Demographics

|                                     |             |
|-------------------------------------|-------------|
| Faculty Member                      | 38%         |
| Clinical/Research Staff             | 37%         |
| IRB member/ IRB staff               | 8%          |
| Student (undergrad, grad, doctoral) | 10%         |
| Fellow/Visiting Scholar             | 1%          |
| Other:                              | 6%          |
| <b>Total</b>                        | <b>100%</b> |