

	<b>IRBChoice INITIATIVE</b>			
	<b>P &amp; P</b>	<b>VERSION DATE</b>	<b>REPLACES P &amp; P</b>	<b>PREVIOUS VERSION DATE</b>
	8.04	02.07.2020	5.26	03.25.2019

LSUHSC-NO has signed an agreement to participate in the IRBChoice initiative. This agreement is signed by institutions around the country in which they agree to accept the IRB review of one of the participating institutions. LSUHSC-NO participation in this program, however, is restricted to consortium institutions of the Louisiana Clinical and Translational Science (LaCaTS) Center NIH award to prime awardee, Pennington Biomedical Research Center. These institutions have agreed to the reciprocal review of the various IRBs of the consortium institutions. Vanderbilt University’s IRBChoice website is used for this purpose.

The LaCaTS consortium institutions (LSUHSC-New Orleans, LSUHSC-Shreveport, Tulane University, Pennington Biomedical Research Center, LSU A&M and Xavier University) have agreed to IRB reciprocity of review through an IRBChoice Master Agreement. For example, if an LSUHSC-NO investigator presents a study to the LSUHSC-NO IRB for review, and the project is approved by the LSUHSC-NO IRB then that information can be posted by the IRB on the IRBChoice website. In this instance, this information is only visible to consortium institutions, i.e., no other IRBChoice institutions can view the information.

Each of the consortium institutions can then engage an administrative review of the information provided on the IRBChoice website by the LSUHSC-NO IRB. If the consortium institution decides to participate in that study, then they can accept the LSUHSC-NO IRB review for their approval of the study. Similarly, a study posted by another LaCaTS consortium institution can be administratively reviewed by the LSUHSC-NO IRB for approval should a LSUHSC-NO investigator be asked to participate in the study.

The IRBChoice initiative has received approval from OHRP as a legal mechanism for IRB reciprocity of review. Both minimal risk and greater than minimal risk studies can be approved through this mechanism. Studies eligible for Exempt status are not eligible for inclusion in the IRBChoice mechanism.

Note that due to the effort involved in managing and posting material on the IRBChoice website, existing studies approved by the LSUHSC-NO IRB cannot be transferred to the IRBChoice mechanism.