NEW Form B

Based on recommendations in the final report by the AAHRPP Council, the Informed Consent Process section of the Research Description (Medical "Form B" and Nonmedical "Form B") was revised to include a request for a description of other written materials that may be provided to participants or legally authorized representatives. Researchers should be sure to replace any previously saved versions of "Form B" with the one provided in the online IRB application.

International Ethics Resources Available

The NIH Program on Clinical Research Policy Analysis and Coordination (NIH CRpac program) maintains a valuable compendium of ethics resources that are available over the Internet. These may be found on the NIH site titled, "Bioethics Resources on the Web."

Recently, CRpac augmented the site through the addition of a compilation of international guidelines, codes, regulations, policies, and declarations. These materials will be of interest to researchers, IRB members, administrators, and others involved in international research activities.

Report of the Public Responsibility in Medicine Research (PRIM&R) Human Tissue/Specimen Banking Working Group

This 2007 report has two parts.

Part I discusses the current challenges to the collection, storage, distribution, and use of human specimens and data in research and then presents recommendations to the federal regulatory and funding agencies for strategies that could help address the challenges.

Part II consists of a set of ten "tools" or educational materials that are intended to help investigators, IRBs, repository managers understand current federal regulations and policies, relevant State laws, and international frameworks and to provide them with points to consider about critical issues such as managing risks, patient attitudes and the return of research results. This useful resource is available on the PRIM&R Web site.