UNIVERSITY OF
NORTHERN COLORADO

Updates to Exempt Studies

Studies that qualify for an exemption do not undergo continuing review. Additionally, modifications do not need to be submitted for exempt studies so long as the research remains minimal risk and stays within the boundaries of the exemption categories that the IRB found were applicable to the research.

It is a best practice recommendation to notify the IRB and your protocol record to document the changes you make. The review will help ensure that these updates did not change the scope of the study or risk to participants. You can find instructions to notify the IRB in Streamlyne here. The IRB administrator will contact you if additional IRB review is required.

Examples of updates that would likely require IRB review:

- Removal of the consent process, or use of deception or incomplete disclosure.
- Significant changes to the recruitment procedures.
- Adding sensitive questions to a survey or interview process (e.g. questions regarding illegal activities; traumatic events such as childhood, sexual, or domestic abuse; suicide; or other probing questions that could reasonably place the subjects at risk of criminal or civil liability or be damaging to the subjects' financial standing, employability, educational advancement, or reputation).
- Collection of new or additional identifiable information.
- Changes to the data storage plan which may affect confidentiality.
- Adding any new physiological measures that were not already determined to be exempt.