

Interim University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences (UAMS) Requirements on Human Subjects Research Studies during the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency to be Retired Effective Immediately

First issued in March 2020, the interim requirements for the conduct of human subject research during the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency have protected research participants, UAMS personnel, and the community while promoting continuity of UAMS' research mission to the extent feasible. These requirements were revised several times over the past two years as circumstances changed and new information became available. At this time, separate requirements specific to human subject research are no longer necessary. Enrollment is permitted for all types of clinical research studies and has been since April 2021. Research in clinical settings should continue to follow guidelines and precautions consistent with the UAMS clinical enterprise (<https://uamshealth.com/coronavirus/>). Research in other settings should likewise comply with applicable UAMS policies and state and federal guidance relevant to symptom screening, PPE requirements, and other precautions based on the nature of the activities and physical environment. The methods developed to conduct both participant and sponsor visits virtually have revealed efficiencies that investigators may wish to continue at their own discretion. In-person visits for sponsor monitoring visits will no longer be restricted unless otherwise precluded by UAMS policy or guidance (e.g., temporary restrictions on events or in-person meetings).