

Research must be approved by the local equivalent of an IRB before you receive final approval from the MD Anderson IRB. If there is no equivalent board or group, you should rely on local experts or community leaders to provide permission to proceed.

Protocol ID:	Principal Investigator:
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1. Describe the research locale.

2. Describe your qualifications for performing this research in this location, e.g., coursework, training, and/or experience.

3. Describe the cultural norms you will have to take into account to conduct this research. Include (as applicable):

- (i) Local laws
- (ii) Age of majority
- (iii) Cultural sensitivities
- (iv) Differences in autonomy regarding the consent process, e.g., who is responsible for giving consent in this setting/culture, whether written consent is customary, etc.

4. Describe the country's laws regarding human subject research. See [International Compilation of Human Research Protections](#) [OHRP].

5. Describe the primary language(s) spoken in the community. Explain your ability to speak, read, and write the language of the potential participants. Explain provisions for translators if needed.

6. Describe if you were invited into the community to conduct research. If no, describe how you will have culturally appropriate access to the community.

7. Explain how data will be brought back to the U.S. securely (e.g., kept with you at all times, in a locked bag, on an encrypted device?)

Note:

- (1) If your research is federally-funded, all local or international IRBs or Ethics Committees that review your research must be registered with the Office of Human Research Protections (OHRP) and have a Federalwide Assurance (FWA).
- (2) Research "in the field" (e.g., ethnographic, historical, phenomenological research) does not always fit a traditional research design or IRB review model. However, the same principles for protection of participants' rights and welfare apply in these studies.
- (3) **For ethical considerations regarding these methods of research,** see:
 - [American Psychological Association \(APA\) Ethical Code of Conduct 2002](#)
 - [American Sociological Association's Code of Ethics](#)
 - [American Anthropological Association Code of Ethics](#)
 - [Oral History Association Principles and Best Practices](#)

Versions

Date	Action	Initials	Description
11/01/2018	New	JH	Created new document
09/08/2019	Rev	JH	Added logo