



National Institutes of Health
Health Research Institute
National Bioethics Committee for Research (NBC-R)

Advisory

On “Mandatory IRB Approval” for Research Projects Submitted to NBC-R

All institutions and researchers intending to submit their projects to the National Bioethics Committee of Pakistan (NBC-R) are required to:-

- Ensure that all research projects are reviewed and approved by an Institutional Review Board/Ethical Review Committee before submission to NBC-R.
- Institutions without an IRB must take immediate steps to establish their own Institutional Review Board for the review of research projects.
- Alternatively, Institutions/Researchers may adopt the IRB of another organization or institution as an affiliated review body. This adopted IRB must meet the ethical and procedural standards set by NBC-R.
- Update official institutional documentation to clearly reflect IRB status and ensure that IRB approval is a clear prerequisite for research project submission.

This aims to uphold ethical standards and ensure that research activities are carried out with the utmost consideration for participant safety/privacy, and legal compliance.

NBC-R encourages all institutions and researchers to ensure compliance with these requirements to facilitate smooth and timely processing of research projects.

Yours sincerely,

Dr. Nighat Murad
Executive Director HRI, NIH
(Member Secretary NBCR)