Syracuse University Institutional Review Board

Vulnerable Populations:

PRISONERS

Principal Investigator:

Study Title:

*Attach this completed form to the IRB Application when “Prisoners/Legally Restricted” is checked in Section 6 – Characteristics of Participants.*

"Prisoner" means any individual involuntarily confined or detained in a penal institution. The term is intended to encompass:

* Individuals sentenced to such an institution under a criminal or civil statute;
* Individuals detained in other facilities by virtue of statutes or commitment procedures which provide alternatives to criminal prosecution or incarceration in a penal institution; or
* Individuals detained pending arraignment, trial, or sentencing.

**Note: Probation and parole are usually NOT considered as incarceration.**

1. **Place a check in the box beside the category that best represents the research and provide the rationale for that choice:**

The research is a study of the possible causes, effects, and processes of incarceration, and of criminal behavior.

The research is a study of prisons as institutional structures or of prisoners as incarcerated persons.

The study represents research on conditions particularly affecting prisoners as a class (for example, vaccine trials and other research on hepatitis which is more prevalent in prisons than elsewhere; and research on social and psychological problems such as alcoholism, drug addiction, and sexual assaults).

The study represents research on practices, both innovative and accepted, which have the intent and reasonable probability of improving the health or well-being of the subject.

1. **How does each of the following required conditions apply to the research?**

* 1. Are there any possible advantages accruing to the prisoner through his or her participation in the research, when compared to the general living conditions, medical care, quality of food, amenities and opportunity for earnings in the prison, that are of such a magnitude that his or her ability to weigh the risks of the research against the value of such advantages in the limited choice environment of the prisoner is impaired?

No  Yes

* 1. Are the risks involved in the research commensurate with the risks that would be accepted by non-prisoner volunteers?

No  Yes

* 1. Are the procedures for the selection of participants within the prison fair to all prisoners and immune from arbitrary intervention by prison authorities or prisoners?

No  Yes

If prisoners are not the targeted population, explain the importance of continuing to intervene, interact, or collect identifiable private information during a participant’s incarceration.

Will the control subjects be selected randomly from the group of available prisoners who meet the characteristics needed for the research project?

No  Yes  N/A

* 1. Does adequate assurance exist that parole boards will not take into account a prisoner's participation in the research when making decisions regarding parole; and, will each prisoner be clearly informed in advance that participation in the research will have no effect on his/her parole?

No  Yes

If “Yes,” please explain what assurances have been made and how they will be communicated to the prisoner-participants.

* 1. Where the IRB finds there may be a need for follow-up exam or care of participants after the end of their participation, taking into account the varying lengths of individual prisoners' sentences, are there adequate provisions made to do so and for informing participants of this fact?

No  Yes  N/A

If “Yes,” please explain what provisions have been made for follow-up and how you will communicate this to the prisoner-participants.