



## **Frequently Ask Questions:**

How does one access the CRI?

The Clinical Research Institute can be reached by phone (806) 743-4222, by email at [clinicalresearch@ttuhsc.edu](mailto:clinicalresearch@ttuhsc.edu), by visiting our website <http://www.ttuhsc.edu/clinicalresearch/>, or by visiting our office at 3601 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Room BA101 (located in the basement next to the Police Department).

Clinical Research Institute Executive Leadership:

Cathy Lovett, MSN, RN Managing Director  
Phone: 806-743-4433  
Email: [Cathy.Lovett@ttuhsc.edu](mailto:Cathy.Lovett@ttuhsc.edu)

Alan Peiris, MD/PhD, Co-Director  
Phone: 806-743-3150  
Email: [Alan.Peiris@ttuhsc.edu](mailto:Alan.Peiris@ttuhsc.edu)

Lorenz Lutherer, MD/PhD, Executive Director  
Phone: 806-743-2532  
Email: [Lorenz.Lutherer@ttuhsc.edu](mailto:Lorenz.Lutherer@ttuhsc.edu)

What services does the CRI provide?

### **Facilitating Research:**

- Assistance with protocol development
- Study design
- Submissions to the Institutional Review Board
- Consenting and enrolling patients
- Conduct of the study
- Statistical analysis
- Preparation of reports and manuscripts

**Providing Education:**

- Approved medical and graduate school electives
- Six-hour training program with continuing medical education credit for new faculty and residents
- One-week training program for research coordinators
- Six-hour lecture series for students, residents, fellows and faculty

Where are the researcher's links located on the Clinical Research Institute website?

The Clinical Research Institute website address is <http://www.ttuhscc.edu/clinicalresearch/>. From there, a researcher can go directly to the researcher's link (<http://www.ttuhscc.edu/clinicalresearch/investigator/appforms.aspx>) to find useful information and required forms to be completed by the researcher. To complete the forms, please save the all forms to your desktop. Once forms are saved to your desktop, you can open the document and complete the forms with the required information. Save the completed forms to your desktop with a new name; submit your forms by email to [clinicalresearch@ttuhscc.edu](mailto:clinicalresearch@ttuhscc.edu).

How does one submit a CRI form to the Clinical Research Institute Inbox?

You can submit your forms to the Clinical Research Institute one of two ways. First way is to email forms to the CRI Inbox, please save the PDF document to your desktop; fill in the required information; save the completed form with a new file name and email to the [ClinicalResearch@ttuhscc.edu](mailto:ClinicalResearch@ttuhscc.edu) inbox for processing. Second way is to print and complete forms; and send them by campus mail to Mail Stop 8183.

What is investigator-initiated research?

Investigator-initiated research is research thought of and then carried out by an individual. The investigator prepares a research protocol and follows through the process to have the study reviewed, conducted, and submitted for oral or written publications. Of course, the investigator is expected to be involved in all stages of the research process.

What are retrospective studies?

Retrospective studies ask a question and look at medical/patient information from the historical point of view, i.e., chart reviews.

What are prospective studies?

Prospective studies look at medical/patient information wanting to know how a medication/medical procedure will affect an individual or the process.

What training do I have to complete in order to do research at TTUHSC?

In order to take part in a research study at TTUHSC, Principal Investigators, Co-Investigators, and research staff are required to complete training regarding the protection

of human research subjects prior to starting any human research-related activities. Research personnel must also complete training on Financial Conflicts of Interest, submit a Financial Disclosure, and request an iRIS account from the Institutional Review Board.

How can I submit my study to the Institutional Review Board (IRB) for review?

All submissions to a TTUHSC IRB must be submitted using the Internet Medical Research Information System (iRIS) software. In order to gain access to the system, all users must submit an iRIS Access Request after completing other training requirements. The Clinical Research Institute can prepare or assist with IRB submissions.

Who can be the Principal Investigator of a study?

TTUHSC IRB policy states that only TTUHSC/TTU faculty (full or part time) may serve as the Principal Investigator. Resident/student research projects required a TTUHSC/TTU faculty serve as a Principal Investigator. Residents and students may be listed on the study as Sub-Investigators or Study Personnel.

When will the IRB review my study?

Refer to the IRB website at [www.ttuhscc.edu/research/RIO/irb/](http://www.ttuhscc.edu/research/RIO/irb/) for information on submission deadlines and meeting dates.

How do I know if my study is exempt?

Only the IRB can make the determination of exempt status. The study investigator does not have the authority to make this determination. If you think your study qualifies as exempt, you must still submit an IRB application. The IRB will notify you in writing if your study qualifies as exempt.

Can the CRI help me get a statistical analysis for an upcoming abstract/article deadline?

The CRI makes every effort to help with publication efforts, but we need at least 2 weeks' notice to complete a full statistical analysis. Please send an email to [ClinicalResearch@ttuhscc.edu](mailto:ClinicalResearch@ttuhscc.edu) to contact the biostatistician to schedule an appointment.

How can I register to be a volunteer in a research study?

To register to be in a research study, anyone over the age of 18 can register through our secured website <http://www.ttuhscc.edu/clinicalresearch/CRIVolunteer/>. Parents with minor may register their children. Volunteers will be asked to answer a few health related questions. Upon completing and submitting your health-related answers through the secured CRI Volunteer Website, you will receive an email notifying you receipt of the information has been received by our office.

Will I be compensated if I participate in a research study?

Depending on the research study, there may be monetary compensation. The majority of research studies do not provide a monetary compensation.

Do I have to participate in a research study?

The decision to participate in a research study is strictly a personal decision. Your medical care or services will not be affected by your decision to participate in a research study. If you have questions or concerns you may contact a Clinical Research Coordinator at (806) 743-4222. Clinical Research Coordinators can provide a basic description of the research study you are inquiring into.