

# NCEH/ATSDR Human Subjects Research Determination Form

Use this form and the flowcharts for either:

1. CDC projects and activities that do not require CDC IRB review under HHS Human Subjects (45 CFR part 46) or FDA (21 CFR parts 50 and 56) Regulations, which include “non-research”, “research not involving identifiable human subjects,” or “human subjects research for which CDC is not engaged”; OR
2. Human subjects research that will be submitted to the Human Research Protection Office (HRPO) as an Exempt Category of Human Subjects Research.

**Project Title:**

**Project Location(s)/Site(s):**

**Project Officer(s):**

**Telephone:**

**Division or Office:**

**Proposed Project Dates: Start:**

**End:**

**Time sensitive:**

**Project Funding and Partners (answer both): HHS:**

**Non-HHS:**

If applicable, name participating external institution(s).

Indicate the holder of the key to decipher the identities of coded data or biological specimens.

**Specify CDC role (mark all that apply):**

CDC is the sole institution conducting activity; OR

If not the sole institution, indicate if:

CDC is NOT a recipient or provider of private data, specimens, materials or services;

CDC is provider of private data/specimens to an institution.

CDC is recipient of private data/specimens from an institution.

CDC is provider of materials/services to an institution.

CDC is recipient of materials/services from an institution

**Questions 1-4 pertain to the HHS Human Subjects Regulations (45 CFR 46):**

**1. For CDC: Is this activity classified as *research*?** **YES**    **NO**

A. Is the activity a systematic investigation including research development, testing, and evaluation? YES    NO

B. Is the activity intentionally designed to develop OR contribute to generalizable knowledge? YES    NO

CDC activity IS research if both 1A and 1B are “YES.”

If 1 is “NO,” then STOP; otherwise continue.

**2. For CDC: Is this research classified as *human subjects research*?** **YES**    **NO**

A. Does the activity only involve the collection or analysis of non-human data or specimens, including entities, organizations, or environmental materials? YES    NO

B. Does the activity only involve the collection or analysis of data or specimens from deceased persons? YES    NO

CDC activity IS NOT human subjects research if either 2A or 2B are “YES.”

If 2 is “NO,” then STOP; otherwise continue.

C. Do CDC employees intervene with, interact with, or obtain informed consent from living persons? YES    NO

D. Are/Were the data or specimens collected from living persons *specifically* for this proposed activity? YES    NO

E. Are/Were extra data or specimens collected from living persons *specifically* for this proposed activity? YES    NO

F. Do/Will CDC employees or agents have access to the link between the data or specimens and the identity of these living persons? YES    NO

CDC activity IS human subjects research if 2C is “YES.”

CDC activity IS NOT human subjects research if 2D, 2E, and 2F are all “NO.”

If 2 is “NO,” then STOP; otherwise continue.

**3. For CDC: Will this activity be submitted to HRPO for approval as *exempt human subjects research*?** **YES**    **NO**

A. Does the research pose more than minimal risk? YES    NO

B. Will prisoners be involved? YES    NO

C. Will interaction with children occur or will identifiable private information about them be obtained? YES    NO

D. Based on the [HRPO Worksheet for Exemption from Human Subjects Regulations](#), is there an HHS Exempt YES    NO

Research Category for which this activity will be reviewed? If “YES,” specify the Category number:

CDC activity IS exempt human subjects research if 3A, 3B, and 3C are all “NO,” and an exempt category (3D) applies.

Exempt research must go to HRPO; use CDC Form 0.1250X.

If 3 is “YES,” then STOP; otherwise continue.

4. Is CDC *engaged* in the non-exempt research involving identifiable human subjects? YES NO
- A. Did CDC receive funding directly from another HHS agency? YES NO
- B. Do CDC employees or agents intervene or interact with living individuals for research purposes? YES NO
- C. Do CDC employees or agents obtain individually identifiable private information? YES NO

CDC IS engaged if 4A, 4B, or 4C are "YES."

If 4 is "NO," then STOP. Otherwise, research must go to HRPO; use CDC Form 0.1250.

Question 5 pertains to research involving FDA regulated products (21 CFR parts 50 and 56), not including the use of an FDA approved product in the course of medical practice:

5. Based on the [HRPO Worksheet to Determine FDA Regulatory Coverage](#), is the research activity subject to FDA human subjects regulations? YES NO

**Additional Notes:**

Although CDC HRPO review is not required, investigators or project officers must adhere to ethical principles and standards to respect and protect the privacy, confidentiality, and autonomy of participants. All applicable State and Federal privacy laws must be followed. Informed consent may be appropriate. Information disclosed in the consent process should address the basic elements of consent. The consent form and all other required supporting documents must be submitted with this form for review. The list of required documents is found in the [NCEH/ATSDR Guided Checklist for Human Subjects and PRA Determinations](#).

**Division Approval Signatures and Dates:**

|              |             |                       |             |
|--------------|-------------|-----------------------|-------------|
|              |             |                       |             |
| Branch Chief | Date Signed | Division ADS/Director | Date Signed |

**For Office of Science Use Only:** Final NCEH/ATSDR Center Determination

**Request Received Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**CDC's role does not require HHS human subjects review beyond the center level because:**

- Activity is not research (Flow chart category NR-1).
- Activity is not human subjects research (Flow chart category NR-2 through NR-8).
- Activity is non-exempt human subjects research, but CDC is not engaged (Flow chart category HSR-3).

**CDC's role does require HHS human subjects review beyond the center level because:**

- Activity qualifies as exempt human subjects research (Flow chart category HSR-1).
- Activity qualifies as non-exempt, engaged human subjects research (Flow chart category HSR-2).

**CDC's role does not require FDA human subjects review beyond the center level because:**

- Activity does not require human subjects review under FDA regulations (Flow chart category NFDA-3 through NFDA-4).

**CDC's role does require FDA human subjects review beyond the center level because:**

- Activity qualifies as human subjects research under FDA regulations (Flow chart category FDA-1 through FDA-2).

**NCEH/ATSDR Human Subjects Contact Signature and Date:**

|                          |             |
|--------------------------|-------------|
|                          |             |
| Stephanie I. Davis, MSPH | Date Signed |

## **Guidance for Completing the NCEH/ATSDR Human Subjects Research Determination Form**

### **For question 1:**

- To determine if your project is research for purposes of human subjects protection, consult:
  - The [CDC Policy on Distinguishing Public Health Research and Public Health Nonresearch](#)
  - Guidance from the Office of Human Research Protections ([OHRP](#))
  - The [FDA regulations](#), if applicable
- See the Research Determination Flowchart 1 for examples of nonresearch activities.

### **For question 2:**

- Research involving living human subjects must adhere to the protection of humans subjects under either the [Human Subjects 45 CFR part 46](#) or [FDA 21 CFR part 50](#) and [part 56](#).
- Guidance on [research involving coded private information or biological specimens](#) is available from OHRP.
- More information on human subjects research can be found on the [HRPO](#) website.
- See the Research Determination Flowcharts 1–3.

### **For question 3:**

- [45 CFR part 46\(b\)](#) outlines the Exempt Research Categories.
- The [HRPO Worksheet for Exemption from Human Subjects Regulations](#) provides more details on Exempt Research Categories.
- The categories most often used for Exempt Research conducted at CDC/ATSDR are 2 and 4.
- See the Research Determination Flowchart 4.

### **For question 4:**

- Guidance on [Engagement](#) of institutions in research can be found from OHRP.
- See the Research Determination Flowchart 4.

### **For question 5:**

- Research involving living human subjects that are [21 CFR Part 50](#) and [part 56](#)
- See the Research Determination Flowchart 5 and the [HRPO Worksheet to Determine FDA Regulatory Coverage](#) for more information on how to make this determination.
- Differences between HHS and FDA human subjects regulations can be found [here](#).

NOTE: If CDC is only providing/receiving materials and services, the Research Determination Flowcharts do not apply.