

What is Continuing Review?

Regulations state that the IRB must conduct Continuing Review of an approved Expedited and Full Board Review study at intervals appropriate to the degree of risk, but not less than once per year.

The purpose of this process is to review an entire study and determine that the anticipated risks and benefits are reflected in the actual experience of subjects and that the safeguards in place at the time of original approval are, in fact, adequate to ensure the safety of subjects.

How the Process Works:

1. An email notice is sent from IRBNet to the principal investigator, co-investigators, coordinators and faculty sponsors prior to the annual review date.
2. The continuing review form can be found in IRBNet under forms and templates.
3. The continuing review form must be completed and uploaded in IRBNet (see instructions on how to do this in IRBNet User Manual) before the expiration date for processing and review.
4. The continuing review form can be used to provide updates on a project, renew a project, or close a project.

It is the principal investigator's responsibility to complete the continuing review form in a timely manner or the study may be inactivated by the IRB Board.

Projects involving high risk may require more frequent review. The IRB may require frequent review or reports on a specific number of cases. IRB expiration dates and/or project update dates will be announced at the time of project approval.