

SOUTHWEST ONCOLOGY GROUP

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Policy Memorandum No. 22
Subject: Ethical and Regulatory Considerations
Departments Affected: All

Page 1 of 2 pages
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ETHICAL AND REGULATORY CONSIDERATIONS

The following must be observed to comply with Food and Drug Administration regulations for the conduct and monitoring of clinical investigations; they also represent sound research practice:

Informed Consent

The principles of informed consent are described by Federal Regulatory Guidelines (Title 21, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 50) and the Office for Human Research Protections: Protection of Human Subjects (Title 45, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 46). They must be followed to comply with FDA regulations for the conduct and monitoring of clinical investigations.

Institutional Review

A study must be reviewed and approved by an appropriate institutional review committee as defined by Federal Regulatory Guidelines (Title 21, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 56) and the Office for Human Research Protections Reports: Protection of Human Subjects (Title 45, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 46).

Drug Accountability

For each investigational drug supplied for a study, drug disposition (drug receipt, dispensing, transfer or return) shall be maintained on the NCI Investigational Drug Accountability Record unless specified otherwise in the protocol. Drug supplies must be kept in a secure, limited access storage area under the recommended storage conditions. During the course of the study, the following information must be noted on the Drug Accountability Record: quantity and date of drug received, the Southwest Oncology Group ID # and initials of the subject to whom drug is dispensed, the date(s) and quantity of drug dispensed to the subject, and the date(s) and quantity of drug returned to the NCI or transferred to another NCI-approved protocol. These Drug Accountability Records must be readily available for inspection and are open to FDA or NCI inspection at any time.

Adverse Experiences

The timely reporting of serious adverse events (SAEs) is required by regulations of the Food and Drug Administration (Title 21, Code of Federal Regulations, Section 312). Such reporting is in the interest of patient safety and scientific communication by allowing the Division of Cancer Treatment (DCT) of the National Cancer Institute to rapidly disseminate new findings to the investigative community studying the agent. The requirement for timely reporting is specified in the Statement of Investigator, FDA Form 1572. In signing the FDA 1572, the investigator accepts the responsibility for conducting investigational agent trials, including reporting SAEs to the DCT. Any adverse experience which meets protocol-specified reporting guidelines must also be reported to the Operations Office Serious Adverse Events specialist by calling 210-614-8808. Please see Group Policy No. 23 (Serious Adverse Events) and Section 16 of specific protocols for detailed guidelines for reporting SAEs.

Page 2 of 2 pages

Subject: Ethical and Regulatory Considerations
Policy Memorandum No. 22

Investigational New Drug Application

The investigational new drug (IND) process is described by Federal Regulatory Guidelines (Title 21, Code of Federal Regulations, Parts 312 and 314). Please see Group Policy No. 15 (Group Protocols Sponsored by Pharmaceutical Companies) for information regarding investigational new drug submissions held by the Southwest Oncology Group.