



AMENDMENTS VS NEW APPLICATIONS

Making substantial amendments to your existing IRB application? A new application may be required instead!

Consider the 3Ps: PURPOSE, PROCEDURES, POPULATION

	AMENDMENT	NEW APPLICATION
PURPOSE	Research question/ Study Aims have not changed. <i>eg. Adding/ substituting one questionnaire with a similar one.</i>	New research question and new study aims were introduced. <i>eg. To study the effects of sleep deprivation -> caffeine intake on classroom focus.</i>
PROCEDURES	Procedures and interventions remain generally the same. <i>eg. Adding/ substituting one questionnaire with a similar one.</i>	Procedures and interventions introduced are significantly different from existing ones. <i>eg. survey + interview -> MRI scan</i>
POPULATION	General target population remains the same. <i>eg. Healthy adults 21 - 40 years old -> Healthy adults 21 - 60 years old</i>	Different population being studied. <i>eg. Healthy adults -> Minors diagnosed with learning disorders.</i>

Where appropriate, IRB may request for a New Application to be raised instead.

[Visit our Guidelines to find out more!](#)

CAN I OBTAIN IRB APPROVAL AFTER CONDUCTING MY RESEARCH?

NTU-IRB is unable to provide retrospective ethics approval for research already conducted.

IRB APPROVAL MUST BE OBTAINED BEFOREHAND!

Why?

Any recommended changes required by the IRB cannot be implemented retrospectively on research already conducted.

PUBLISHERS ARE LIKELY TO REJECT MANUSCRIPTS WITHOUT PROPER ETHICS APPROVAL

Case-studies from the international Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE):

- Journals routinely ask for evidence of ethics approvals
- Retrospective ethics approvals not allowed
- Use of 'secondary data' requires ethics approval

[Visit our Guidelines to find out more!](#)

Stay tuned for our next newsletter to learn more!

To subscribe to our mailing list and for further queries, please write to IRB@ntu.edu.sg

Brought to you by: Research Integrity and Ethics Office (RIEO)

Refer to our website for more information on IRB Guidelines [here](#).

