

**IRC requires all Principal Investigators to have RCR training within past 3 years.
IRC suggests all team members have Good Research or Good Clinical Practices training within past 3 years.**

Exception: An exception to this rule has been made for investigators in registry or late phase studies for which there are few training programs yet available. These investigators are strongly encouraged to obtain some relevant training.

Investigators and their staff members enter research with a variety of backgrounds ranging from nursing and medicine and social issues to engineering and administration. Few investigators begin with adequate training about research and, more importantly, the Responsible Conduct of Research.

There are three areas of training:

- Good Research Practices / Good Clinical Practices (GCP)
- Responsible Conduct of Research (RCR)
- Administration and management of an institutional program

What are the core requirements? You should know:

- the responsibilities of an investigator.
- ethical codes and the conduct of research
- the elements of a good consent process
- the elements of consent information
- the requirements for consent documentation
- major issues regarding confidentiality
- elements of Good Clinical Practice
- how to recognize vulnerabilities in study populations
- sources of human subject regulation
- definitions (research, investigation, subject, investigator)
- requirements for continuing review, modifications, emergencies and violations
- adverse problem reporting
- restrictions on publication of results
- conflict of interest rules
- and more...

University courses are accepted as are several web based courses. A number of organizations offer 1 or 2 day courses around the country. (Remember that CE credit is often available!)

IRC maintains a list of resources for education. See section 6.6.

