

# Independent Review Consulting, Inc.

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## ANNOUNCEMENT

# IRC AWARDED FULL AAHRPP ACCREDITATION

December 17, 2008

IRC – Independent Review Consulting, Inc., a company hosting an independent Institutional Review Board (IRB), announced today that it has received full accreditation status from The Association for the Accreditation of Human Research Protection Programs, Inc. (AAHRPP). To date, 159 organizations worldwide have earned accreditation.

IRC was established in 1984 to provide IRB services. Now in its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary year, IRC provides reviews for the pharmaceutical, medical device and biotech industries and for social, behavioral and educational research.

Erica Heath, founder and president of IRC, said, “AAHRPP accreditation standards are rigorous, and we are pleased to be in some very good company. IRC has long been a leader in the theory and practice of IRB review, and now we have the professional recognition to show for it.”

Accreditation is a meticulous process, starting with a period of self-evaluation. IRC used this time to upgrade many policies and procedures and all of its forms – not only for its own benefit, but to make them easier for applicants to use. The AAHRPP review process includes intensive evaluation of an organizations’ written materials followed by a site visit. “It has taken much effort and documentation to reach the finish line. Accreditation is never assured but we knew we could make it,” adds Heath.

AAHRPP is at <http://www.aahrpp.org/>

**IRC**

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