

## **Research Involving Psychiatric In-Patients**

### **A. RECRUITMENT AND CONSENT**

Psychiatric patients who have a relationship with a treating psychiatrist should not be approached before the researcher has contacted that psychiatrist. The researcher should inquire whether in the judgment of the psychiatrist it would be against the patient's best interests to participate in the research. If the treating psychiatrist determines that the research is suitable for this patient, then that physician must obtain permission from the patient to be contacted. Then the researcher may approach the patient for recruitment and to obtain informed consent. See the policy found at <http://www.aecom.yu.edu/cci/page.aspx?id=9964>

Psychiatric patients who are decisionally capable may provide ethically and legally adequate informed consent. Researchers seeking to enroll psychiatric patients must arrange for an assessment of capacity for each prospective subject by a qualified professional who is not associated with the research. The CCI/IRB shall determine those extra protections that must be instituted to protect psychiatric inpatients, which, as a result of the lack of voluntariness of their admission, may be especially vulnerable. For decisionally incapable patients refer to the policy, 'Research Involving Incapacitated Patients' found at <http://www.aecom.yu.edu/cci/page.aspx?id=9940>

### **B. DETERMINATIONS OF RISK AND BENEFIT**

The CCI/IRB will review design elements (e.g. washouts, placebos) that will affect risk/benefit determinations.

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