ACRONYMS USED IN THE IRB FORUM

Compiled by Miguel Roig, Ph.D*
St. John's University
And included here with his permission
*(and various other IRB Forum members who have contributed to the acronym list)

This list was created a couple of years ago. If a link does not work or you need to find out what other acronyms represent, try the acronym finder at [www.acronymfinder.com]

AAHP – American Association of Health Plans, [www.aahp.org]
AAHRPP – Association for the Accreditation of Human Research Protections Programs, [www.aahrpp.org]
AAMC – Association of American Medical Colleges, [www.aamc.org]
AAPOR – American Association for Public Opinion Research, (statement for IRB) [www.aapor.org]
AAPP – American Academy of Pharmaceutical Physicians, [aapp.org]
ABMS – American Board of Medical Specialties, [www.abms.org]
ACC-NCDR – American College of Cardiology National Cardiovascular Data Registry, [www.accncdr.com]
ACCME – Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education, [www.accme.org]
ACCP – American College of Clinical Pharmacy, [www.accp.com]
ACE – Affiliated Covered Entity (HIPPA)
ACGME – Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education, [www.acgme.org]
ACHRE – Advisory Committee on Human Radiation Experiments, [www.eh.doe.gov]
ACOSOG – American College of Surgeons Oncology Group, [www.acosog.org]
ACR – American College of Radiology, [www.acr.org]
ACRIN – American College of Radiology Imaging Network, [www.acrin.org]
ACRP – Association of Clinical Research Professionals, [www.acrpnet.org]
ACS – American Cancer Society, [www.cancer.org]
ACUC – Animal Care and Use Committee
AD - Alzheimer's Disease
ADAPT – Alzheimer's Disease Anti-Inflammatory Prevention Trial
ADE – Adverse Drug Event
ADR – Adverse Drug Reaction
AE – Adverse Event
AED – Automatic External Defibrillator
AHA – American Hearth Association, [www.americanheart.org]
AHRP – Alliance for Human Research Protection, [www.ahrp.org]
AHRQ – Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, [www.ahcpr.gov]
AII – Agreement for an Independent Investigator, [ohrp.osophs.dhhs.gov]
AIO – Authorized Institutional Official

AMA – American Medical Association, [www.ama-assn.org]
AOIR – Association of Internet Researchers, [www.aoir.org]
APC – Adenoma Prevention with Celebrex (drug trial)
APPE – Association for Practical and Professional Ethics, [www.indiana.edu]
ARDS – Acute Respiratory Distress Syndrome
ARDSNet - Acute Respiratory Distress Syndrome Network, [www.ardsnet.org]
ARENA – Applied Research Ethics National Association, www.arena.org/
ARNP – Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioner
ARO – Academic Research Organization
ASCO – American Society of Clinical Oncology, [www.asco.org]?
ATTC – Addiction Technology Transfer Center, [www.nattc.org]

BA – Business Associate
BAA – Business Associate Agreement
BCOP – Board Certified Oncology Pharmacist
BCP – Birth Control Pills
BMA – Board of Medical Examiners (State boards)
BN – Bachelor of Nursing
BNA – Bureau of National Affairs, [www.bna.com]

C/A – Consent/Agreement
CA – Cooperative Amendment, [ohrp.osophs.dhhs.gov]
CABG – Cardiac/Coronary Artery Bypass Graft
CAD – Coronary Atherothrombotic Disease
CALGB – Cancer and Leukemia Group B, [www.calgb.org]
CAM – Complementary and Alternative Medicine
CAREB – Canadian Organization of Research Ethics Boards, [www.careb-accer.ca]
CB – Comité de Bioética (Bioethics Committee)
CBER – Center for Biologics and Research, [www.fda.gov]
CCIP – Council for Certification of IRB Professionals, [www.arena.org]
CCG – Children's Cooperative/Cancer Group (now COG), [www.childrensoncologygroup.org]
CCOP – Childhood Cancer Ombudsman Program or Community Clinical Oncology Program, [www.childhoodbraintumor.org]
CCRC – Certified Clinical Research Coordinator
CCRP – The Center for Clinical Research Practice, [www.ccrp.com]
CCRN – Childhood Cancer Research Network
CCSG – Children's Cancer Study Group (now known as CCG)
CDC – Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, [www.cdc.gov]
CDER – Center for Drug Evaluation and Research (US - FDA), [www.fda.gov]
CDM – Clinical Data Management.
CDN – Clinical Directors Network, [www.cdnetwork.org]
CDRH – Center for Devices and Radiological Health (US FDA), [www.fda.gov]
CE – Covered Entity. Also, Comité de Etica (Spanish for: Ethics Committee; another name for IRB)
CEAR – Consultants for Evaluation and Applied Research, [www.cmecear.com]
CECRE – The Consortium to Examine Clinical Research Ethics, [cecre.duke.edu]

CEIC – Comité Ético de Investigación Clínica (Another name for IRB, Spain), [www.madrid.org]
CEO – Chief Executive Officer
CER – Comite d'ethique de la recherché (Another name for IRB, Canada),
CEU – Continuing Education Unit (nursing equivalent of CMEs for physicians) [www.ncehr-cnerh.org]
CFR – Code of Federal Regulations (see also CR or Common Rule), [ohrp.osophs.dhhs.gov]]
CHA – Canadian Health Association, [www.cpha.ca]
CHA – California HealthCare Association, [www.calhealth.org]
CHA – Catholic Health Association, [www.chausa.org] In Canada: [www.chac.ca]
CHE – Committee on Human Experimentation (Another name for IRB, Canada)
CHR – Committee on Human Research (Another name for IRB)
CI – Clinical Investigator
CID – Comité de Investigación y Docencia (Another name for IRB, Argentina)
CIE – Comité Institucional de Etica (Institutional Ethics Committee or Comité Independiente de Etica:
Independent Ethics Committee) - (Other names in Spanish for IRB)
CIHR – Canadian Institute for Health Research, [www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca]
CIM – Certified IRB Manager
CIOMS – Council for International Organizations of Medical Sciences, [www.cioms.ch]
CIP – Certified IRB Professional
CIRB – Commercial IRB; Central Institutional Review Board of NCI, [www.ncicirb.org]
CIRCARE – Citizens for Responsible Care and Research, [www.circare.org]
CLD – Chronic Lung Disease
CLIA – Clinical Laboratory Improvement Act/Amendment
CMHS – Center for Mental Health Services/Community Mental Health Services, [www.mentalhealth.org]
CMS – Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, [cms.hhs.gov]
CME – Continuing Medical Education
COC – Certificate of Confidentiality; Conflict of Commitment
COG – Cooperative Oncology Groups funded by NCI: See also CCG, COG, ECOG, GOG, RTOG, POG, CALGB, and NABTC
COG – Children's Oncology Group, [www.childrensoncologygroup.org]
COGR – Council on Government Relations, [www.cogr.edu]
COI – Conflict of Interest
COIC – Conflicts of Interest Committee
COMI – Confidentiality of Medical Information Act (California, US)
CONSORT - Consolidated Standards of Reporting Trials, [www.consort-statement.org]
CORIHS – Committee on Research Involving Human Subjects (Another name for IRB)
CORP – NIH Council of Public Representatives, [copr.nih.gov]
COSA – Committee On Scientific Affairs
COX - Cyclooxygenase (COX, COX-1, COX-2) Inhibitors (e.g., Celebrex, Vioxx)
CPA – Cooperative Project Assurance, [ohrp.osophs.dhhs.gov]
CPC – Clinical Protocol Coordinator
CPCS – Certified Provider Credentialing Specialist

CPG – Compliance Program Guide (FDA), [www.fda.gov]
CPHA – Canadian Public Health Association or CHA, [www.cpha.ca]
CPHQ – Certified Professional in Healthcare Quality
CPHS – Committee for the Protection of Human Subjects (Another name for IRB)
CPR – Cardiopulmonary resuscitation
CPT – Current Procedural Technology code
CQI – Continuous Quality Improvement
CR – Common Rule, [ohrp.osophs.dhhs.gov]]
CRA – Clinical Research Associate
CRC – Clinical Research Coordinator
CRF – Case Report Form
CRI – Clinical Research Investigator
CRM – Clinical Research Management
CRO – Clinical Research Organization/Contract Research Organization
CSF – Cerebrospinal Fluid
CSM – Committee on Safety of Medicines, UK,
[www.mca.gov.uk]
CSP – Cooperative Studies Program
CSTE - Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists, [www.cste.org]
CTA – Clinical Trials Agreement; Clinical Trials Application (Canada)
CTC – Common Terminology Criteria
CTCAE - Common Terminology Criteria for Adverse Events v3.0
CTEP – Cancer Therapy Evaluation Program, [ctep.cancer.gov]
CTO – Clinical Trials Office
CTR – Clinical Trial Registration
CTSU – Cancer Trials Support Unit, [www.ctsu.org]
CV – Cardiovascular

DAIDS – Division of AIDS (see NIAID), [www.niaid.nih.gov]
DCD – Donation After Cardiac Death
DCO – Director of Clinical Trials
DDO – Due Diligence Officer
DEXA – Dual Energy X-Ray Absorptiometry
DHEC – Department of Health and Environmental Control
DHEW – Department of Health, Education and Welfare (no longer exists)
DHHS – Department of Health and Human Services (replaced DHEW), [www.hhs.gov]
DIA – Drug Information Association, [www.diahome.org]
DIC – Data Informed Consent
DKA – Diabetic Ketoacidosis
DMC – Data Monitoring Committee
DOE – Department of Education (US), [www.ed.gov]
DOD – Department of Defense (US)
DOH – Department of Health (see DHHS)
DRC – Departmental Review Committee
DRE – Digital Rectal Examination
DSHEA – Dietary Supplement Health and Education Act of 1994 (US legislation; FDA)

[www.fda.gov]
DSI – Division of Scientific Investigations (FDA), [www.fda.gov]
DSMB – Data Safety Monitoring Board
DSRB – Domain Specific Review Boards (Singapore)
DUA – Data Use Agreement
DVA – Department of Veterans Affairs
DVT – Deep Venous Thrombosis
DUA – Data Use Agreement

EBM – Evidence-based medicine
EDR – Existing Data/Document Review
EC – Ethics Committee (Another name for IRB)
ECMO – Extracorporeal membrane oxygenation
ECOG – Eastern Co-operative Oncology Group, [www.ecog.org]
ECRI – Emergency Care Research Institute, [www.aahp.org]
EFGCP – European Forum for Good Clinical Practice, [www.efgcp.org]
EGFR – Epidermal Growth Factor Receptor
EMEA – European Agency for the Evaluation of Medicinal Products, [www.emea.eu.int]
EMR – Electronic Medical Record
EMS – Emergency Medical Service
EP – Electrophysiology
EQUIC – Enhancing Quality of Informed Consent
ER – Emergency Room
EU – European Union – also – "End-User"

FAP – Familial Adenomatous Polyposis
FDA – Food and Drug Administration, [www.fda.gov]
FDCA – Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act, [www.fda.gov]
FERPA – Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (aka the Buckley Amendment), [www.ed.gov]
FDLI – Food and Drug Law Institute, [www.fdli.org]
FHPP – Facilities Human Protection Program
FI – Fiscal Intermediary
FOIA – Freedom of Information Act
FPCO – Family Policy Compliance Office, [www.ed.gov]
FTE – Full-Time Employee
FWA – Federal Wide Assurance

GCP – Good Clinical Practice
GCRC – General Clinical Research Center
GDP – Good Documentation Practices
GeMCRIS – Genetic Modification Clinical Research Information System
GI – Gastrointestinal or Geographical Information
GME – Graduate Medical Education
GMP – Good Manufacturing Practice
GOG – Gynecologic Oncology Group, [www.gog.org]

GPL – General Public License
GTSAB – Gene Transfer Safety Assessment Board

HAT – At Home Auto External Defibrillation study
HBCUs – Historically Black Colleges and Universities
HCFA – Health Care Financing Administration (US Health and Human Services Administration), [cms.hhs.gov]
HCPCS – Healthcare Current Procedure Coding System
HDE – Humanitarian Device Exemption (what a HUD is classified as), see [www.fda.gov]
HEC – Hospital Ethics Committee
HEC – Human Ethics Committee (IRB, New Zealand)
[www.hrc.govt.nz])
HEC – Health Ethics Committee (IRB, Australia), [www.health.gov.au]
HEW – Health, Education, and Welfare (US Dept. of Health, Education, and Welfare (
HEX – Human Experimentation Committee (Another name for IRB)
HIA – Humanity in Action, [www.humanityinaction.org]
HIC – Health Information Center
HII – Health Improvement Institute, [www.hii.org]
HIPAA – Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act, [www.hhs.gov]
HIRB – Human Investigation Review Board (Another name for IRB)
HIT-6 - Headache Impact Test (HIT-6)
HMO – Health Maintenance Organization
HPA – Human Protections Administrator
HRC – Human Research Committee (Another name for IRB)
HREC – Human Research Ethics Committee (Another name for IRB, Australia)
HRP – Human Research Protections
HRPP – Human Research Protection Programs
HRRB – Human Research Review Board, (Another name for IRB)
HRRC – Human Research Review Committee, (Another name for IRB)
HRT – Hormone Replacement Therapy
HSR – Health Services Research/Human Subjects Research
HSP – Human Subjects Protection
HSPP – Human Subject Protection Program
HSRB – Human Subjects Review Board (Another name for IRB)
HTN – Hypertension
HUD – Humanitarian Use Device

IAA – IRB Authorization Agreement
IACUC – Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee, [www.iacuc.org]
IB – Investigator's Brochure
IBC – Institutional Biosafety Committee or Institutional Biohazard Committee (needed in gene transfer
research, see [www4.od.nih.gov]).
IBC – Inflammatory Breast Cancer
ICD – Informed Consent Document
ICD – International Classification of Diseases, [www.who.int]

ICD registry – Implantable Cardioverter-Defibrilator
ICF – Individual Consent Form or Institutional Consent Form
ICH – International Conference on Harmonization of Technical Requirements for Registration of Pharmaceuticals, [www.ich.org]
ICH-GCP – International Conference on Harmonization – Good Clinical Practice, [www.ncehr-cnerh.org]
ICMJE – International Committee of Medical Journal Editors, [www.icmje.org]
ICS – Informed Consent Statements/inhaled corticosteroids
ICU – Intensive Care Unit
IDB – Investigator's Drug Brochure
IDE – Investigational Device Exemption
IDSMB – Independent Data Safety Monitoring Boards
IEC – Institutional Ethics Committee/Independent Ethics Committee
IIA – Individual Investigator Agreement, [www.hhs.gov]

IIA – Interinstitutional Amendment, [ohrp.osophs.dhhs.gov]
IIHI – Individually Identifiable Health Information (Regs.: 160.103)
IND – Investigational New Drug (application)
IO – Institutional Official
IOM – Institute of Medicine, [www.iom.edu]
IPPC – International Pharmaceutical Privacy Consortium
IRB – Institutional Review Board (see other names for IRB)
IRC – Independent Review Consulting, [www.irb-irc.com] (Also, Investigational Review Committee; Institutional Review Committee; Internal Review Committee)
IREB – Institutional Research Ethics Board (Another name for IRB)
IRRC – Institutional Research Review Committee/Individual Risk Reduction Counseling
IRSG – Intergroup Rhabdomyosarcoma Study Group
ISRCTN Register - International Standard Randomised Controlled Trial Number, [isrctn.com]
IVUS – Intravascular Ultrasound

JCAHO – Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations, [www.jcaho.org]
JIT – Just in Time (procedure)
JUMBO – Joint Utilization of Medications to Block platelets Optimally

LAR – Legally Authorized Representative
LCME – Liaison Committee for Medical Education, [www.lcme.org]
LDS – Limited Data Set
LEP – Limited English Proficiency
LOA – Leave of Absence
LTF – Long-Term Facilitation/Long-Term Fellowship, [www.hfsp.org]
LTF Subjects – Lost to Follow-up Subjects

MEC – Medical Executive Committee
MEDRA - Multilingual European DOI Registration Agency, [reg.medra.org]
MHRA – The Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency, UK, [www.mhra.gov.uk]
MHSA – Master of Health Services Administration (graduate degree)

MI – Myocardial Infarction (heart attack)
MOH – Medical Officer of Health
MOU – Memorandum of understanding
MPA – Multiple Project Assurance, [ohrp.osophs.dhhs.gov]
MREC – Medical Research and Evaluation Committee (Another name for IRB)
MRSA – Methicillin-Resistant Staphylococcus Aureus
MSA – Master of Science in Administration
MSM – Men who have Sex with Men
MSN – Master of Science in Nursing
MSO – Medical Staff Office
MSPH – Master of Science in Public Health
MTA – Material Transfer Agreement
MUHC – McGill University Health Centre, [www.muhcfoundation.com]

NABTC – North American Brain Tumor Consortium, [www.nabtc.org]
NAIM – National Association of IRB Managers, [www.naim.org]
NAIAD – National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, [www.niaid.nih.gov]
NAIAD – Nerve Agent Immobilized Enzyme Alarm & Detector
NARAC – North American Rheumatoid Arthritis Consortium,
[www.arthritis.org]
NBAC – National Bioethics Advisory Commission, [www.bioethics.gov]
NCCN – National Comprehensive Cancer Network, [www.nccn.org]
NCAM – National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine, [nccam.nih.gov]
NCCTG – North Central Cancer Treatment Group, [ncctg.mayo.edu]
NCD – National Council on Disability, [www.ncd.gov]
NCHICA – North Carolina Healthcare Information and Communications Alliance,
[www.nchica.org]
NCI – National Cancer Institute, [www.nci.nih.gov]
NCIC CTG – National Cancer Institute of Canada Clinical Trial Group,
[www.ncic.cancer.ca]
NCPHSBBR – National Commission for the Protection of Human Subjects of Biomedical and Behavioral Research
NCQA – National Committee for Quality Assurance (currently responsible for accreditation of VA
research programs), [www.ncqa.org]
NCRR – National Center for Research Resources, a component of NIH, [www.ncrr.nih.gov]
NDA – New Drug Application
NDC – National Coverage Determination (Medicare) [www.cms.hhs.gov]
NEJM – New England Journal of Medicine
NHSR – Not Human Subject Research
NHRPAC – National Human Research Protections Advisory Committee,
[ohrp.osophs.dhhs.gov]
NIA – Nonaffiliated Investigator Agreement/Noninstitutional Investigator Agreement,
[ohrp.osophs.dhhs.gov]
NIAID – National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, [www.niaid.nih.gov]
NICE – National Institute for National Excellence, [www.nice.org.uk]

NICU – Neonatal Intensive Care Unit
NIDPOE Letters – Notice of Initiation of Disqualification Proceedings and Opportunity to Explain, [www.fda.gov]
NIH – National Institutes of Health, [www.nih.gov]
NLST – National Lung Screening Trial, [www.nci.nih.gov]
NME – New Molecular Entities (FDA, New Drug Approval Reports)
NOK – Next of Kin
NOPR – National Oncologic PET Registry, [interactive.snm.org]
NPP – Notice of Privacy Practices (HIPPA related)
NPWC – National Placebo Working Committee (Canada)
NSABP – National Surgical Adjuvant Breast & Bowel Project, [www.nsabp.pitt.edu]
NSAID – Non-Steroid Anti-Inflammatory Drug
NSR – Non significant Risk
NRMI – National Registry of Myocardial Infarction, [www.nrmi.org]
NWTSG – National Wilms' Tumor Study Group, [www.nwtsg.org]

OA – Osteoarthritis
OBA – Office of Biotechnology Activities, [www4.od.nih.gov]
OB-GYN – Obstetrics-Gynecology
OCR – Office of Civil Liberties/Civil Rights, [www.hhs.gov]
OG – Oncology Group
OHCA – Organized Health Care Arrangement (HIPPA)
OHRO – Office of Human Research Oversight (VHA)
OHRP – Office of Human Research Protections (formerly OPRR), [ohrp.osophs.dhhs.gov]
OLAW – Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare (NIH), [grants1.nih.gov]
OLES – Open Label Extension Studies
OMB – Office of Management and Budget, [www.whitehouse.gov]
OPRR – Office for Protection from Research Risks, [ohsr.od.nih.gov]
OPT – Office of Pediatric Therapeutics, [www.fda.gov]
OR – Operating Room
ORA – Office of Regulatory Affairs/Office of Research Administration, [www.fda.gov]
ORCA – Office of Research Compliance & Assurance (Veterans Health Administration), [www.va.gov]
ORD – Office of Research and Development (VA), [www.va.gov]
ORI – Office of Research Integrity, [ori.dhhs.gov]
OS/ - Office of the Secretary (there are several. See [www.hhs.gov])
OSHA – Occupational Safety and Health Administration, [www.osha.gov]
OT – Occupational Therapists
OTC – Over The Counter (medications that do not require a physician's prescription)

PA-C – Physician Assistant - Certified
PAC – Pediatric Advisory Committee, [www.fda.gov]
PACTG – Pediatric Aids Clinical Trials Group
PAD Trial – The Public Access Defibrillation trial, [depts.washington.edu]

PB – Privacy Board
PCI – Prostate Cancer Initiative, [www.cancer.org]
PCP – Primary Care Physician
PCR – Polymerase Chain Reaction (technique to replicate fragment of DNA for genetic analysis)
PCT – Placebo Control Trials
PCRCT – Placebo Control Randomized Clinical Trial
PD – Program Director
PDR – Physician's Desk Reference
PDUFA – Prescription Drug User Fee Act of 1992
PedCIRB – Pediatric Central Institutional Review Board (NCI)
PFO – Patent Foramen Ovale
PhRMA – Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America, [www.phrma.org]
PHI – Private Healthcare Information/Public Health Information/Protected Health Information (See Regs.:164.501 for Protected Health Information).
PHRP – Partnership for Human Research Protection, [www.phrp.org]
PHS – Public Health Service (see also USPHS – United States Public Health Service), [www.hhs.gov]
PI – Principal Investigator -- Process Improvement
PIC – Peripheral Intravenous Catheter
P&P – Policies and Procedures
PM – Project Manager
PMA – Pre-Market Approval
PMD – Private Medical Doctor
PMOA – Primary Mode of Action (FDA)
[www.fda.gov]
PMA – Pre Market Approval
POA – Power of Attorney
POG – Pediatric Oncology Group (merged with CCG, now COG), [www.childrensoncologygroup.org]
PPRA – Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment, [www.access.gpo.gov]
PreSAP – Prevention of Spontaneous Adenomatous Polyps
PRIDE – Program for Research Integrity, Development and Education (VHA)
PRIM&R – Public Responsibility in Medicine and Research, [www.primr.org]
PRS – Performance Review Standards/Protocol Review Subcommittee
PSA – Prostate-specific antigen
PSUR – Periodic Safety Updates Report
PT – Patient; Physical Therapists
PTC – Professional Testing Corporation, [www.ptcny.com]
PTE – Part-Time Employment
PUI – Primarily Undergraduate Institution
PVS – Persistent Vegetative State

QA – Quality Assurance
QAHRN – Quality Assurance in Human Research Network (Canada)
QC – Quality Control

QI – Quality Improvement
QIC – Quality Improvement Committee
QIP – Quality Improvement Program
QOL – Quality of Life
QV – QV modifier (item provided as routine care in medical trial and covered by Medicare)

RA – Research Assistant, rheumatoid arthritis
RAC – Recombinant-DNA Advisory Committee
RAPS – Regulatory Affairs Professionals Society, [www.raps.org]
RCO – Regulatory Compliance Officer
RCR – Responsible Conduct of Research
RCT – Randomized Control Trial
REB – Research Ethics Board (Another name for IRB - Canada), [www.ncehr-cnerh.org]
RERB – Research Ethics Review Board, (Another name for IRB)
REC – Research Ethics Committee (Another name for IRB - UK), [www.corec.org.uk]
RFP – Request for Proposal
RIA – Research Integrity Officer
R&D – Research And Development
ROC - Resuscitation Outcomes Consortium, [roc.uwctc.org] or [www.nih.gov]
ROI – Report of Investigation
R PH – Registered Pharmacist
RR – Relative Risk
RSA – Research Subject Advocate or Rehabilitation Services Administration
RSC – Radiation Safety Committee
RSV – Respiratory Syncytial Virus
RTOG – Radiation Therapy Oncology Group, [www.rtog.org]

SACHRP – [www.hhs.gov]
SAE – Serious Adverse Events
SAMHSA – Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, www.samhsa.org
SAP – Suspect Adverse Reaction
SBES – School of Biomedical Engineering and Science
SBIR – Small Business Innovative Research
SBS – Social & Behavioral Science
SC – Study Coordinator
SCID – Severe Combined Immunodeficiency Disease
SEER – Surveillance Epidemiology and End Results, [seer.cancer.gov]
SIDCER – Strategic Initiative for Developing Capacity in Ethical Review, [www.sidcer.net]
SMO – Site Management Organization
SOCRA – Society of Clinical Research Associates, [www.socra.org]
SOP – Standard Operating Procedure
SPA – Single Project Assurance, [ohrp.osophs.dhhs.gov]
SR – Safety Report/Significant Risk
SRO – Sponsored Research Office

SRS – Social Rehabilitation Services Administration, [www.ed.gov]
SSA – Social Security Administration, [www.ssa.gov]
SSN – Social Security Number
STD – Sexually Transmitted Diseases
SWOG –South West Oncology Group, [www.swogstat.org]

TCM – Traditional Chinese Medicine
TCPS – Tri-Council Policy Statement (Canada), [www.nserc.ca]
TCD – Transcranial Doppler Ultrasound
TEE – Transesophageal Echocardiography
TGA – Therapeutic Goods Administration (Australia; equivalent to US' FDA), [www.tga.gov.au]
TPO – Third Party Only

UIA – Unaffiliated Investigator Agreement (for a sample of an UIA go to: [ohrp.osophs.dhhs.gov]
UPIRSO – Unanticipated Problems Involving Risks to Subjects or Others
URI – Upper Respiratory Infection
USDA – United States Department of Agriculture, [www.usda.gov]
USPHS – United States Public Health Service, [www.hhs.gov]

VA – Veterans' Administration; Veterans' Affairs, [www.va.gov]
VAMC – Veterans Administration Medical Center
VETPRO - software designed to automate physician credentialing process, [www.quic.gov]
VP – Vice President --- VPR – Vice President for Research
VR – Vocational Rehabilitation
VHA – Veterans Health Administration

WIRB – Western Institutional Review Board, [www.wirb.com]
WHI – Women's Health Initiative, [www.nhlbi.nih.gov]
WHO – World Health Organization, [www.who.int]
WMA – World Medical Association, [www.wma.net]

Common acronyms used in e-mail communications:

AKA – Also known as
ASAP – As soon as possible
BTW – By the way
CYA – Cover your ass
FWIW – For what is worth
FYI – For Your Information
IANAL – I am not a lawyer
IMHO – In my humble opinion
OTOH – On the other hand

POV – Point of View

Other common e-mail acronyms may be found at:
[www4.semo.edu]
[www.mcfedries.com]
[www.uktsupport.co.uk]

Other lists of IRB- or research-related acronyms:
[www.research.umich.edu]
[www.cwru.edu]
[www.northwestern.edu]
[www.kelty.org]
[www.gwvi.ncr.gov]
[www.hipaadvisory.com] (HIPAA acronyms)
[peer1.nasaprs.com]
[felcom.nih.gov]
[www.albmolecular.com]

Glossary of medical terms
[www.partnersforimmunization.org]

GOK – God Only Knows (Expression often used when trying to interpret federal regulations) J

BELMONT REPORT: [www.hhs.gov]
COMMON RULE: [www.hhs.gov]
HELSINKI DECLARATION: [www.wma.net]

Legal and related IRB expressions
Qui tam – "Is a provision of the Federal Civil False Claims Act that allows private citizens to file a lawsuit in the name of the U.S. Government charging fraud by government contractors and others who receive or use government funds, and share in any money recovered". Taken from [www.quitam.com]

Papers on the age-old question: Is it research?

Hodge, J. G. and Gostin, L. O. (2004). Public Health Practice vs. Research: A Report for Public Health
Practitioners Including Cases and Guidance for Making Distinctions. Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists, Atlanta, GA.
[www.cste.org]

Web sites of interest:

Protecting Personal Health Information in Research: Understanding the HIPAA Privacy Rule, [privacyruleandresearch.nih.gov]

Clinlaw: [www.clinlaw.com]. Database of federal and state clinical trial requirements.

Doing ethnographic research: [www.sas.upenn.edu]

Web site for whistle blowers: [www.nationalquitamlawyers.com]

White House Commission on Complementary and Alternative Medicine Policy [www.whccamp.hhs.gov]

National Placebo Working Committee on the Appropriate Use of Placebos in Clinical Trials in Canada (July 2004), [www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca]

Distinguishing between drubs and cosmetics: [www.cfsan.fda.gov]