

SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY EDWARDSVILLE

ADVERSE EVENT/UNANTICIPATED PROBLEM REPORT

Researchers must report to the Southern Illinois University (SIUE) Institutional Review Board (IRB) all incidents of adverse events and/or unanticipated problems that happen during research conducted with human subjects. A written report should be submitted to the SIUE IRB within 48 hours of the researchers' knowledge of the event.

The U.S. Department of Health & Human Services (DHHS), Office of Human Research Protections (OHRP) defines *adverse events* and *unanticipated problems* as follows:

Any adverse event occurring in one or more subjects participating in a research protocol, the nature, severity, or frequency of which is **not** consistent with either:

1. the known or foreseeable risk of adverse events associated with the procedures involved in the research that are described in (a) the protocol-related documents, such as the IRB-approved research protocol, any applicable investigator brochure, and the current IRB-approved informed consent document, and (b) other relevant sources of information, such as product labeling and package inserts; or
2. the expected natural progression of any underlying disease, disorder, or condition of the subject(s) experiencing the adverse event and the subject's predisposing risk factor profile for the adverse event.

Any unanticipated problems involving risks to subjects or others is found but not defined in the HHS regulations at 45 CFR part 46. OHRP considers *unanticipated problems*, in general, to include any incident, experience, or outcome that meets **all** of the following criteria:

1. unexpected (in terms of nature, severity, or frequency) given (a) the research procedures that are described in the protocol-related documents, such as the IRB-approved research protocol and informed consent document; and (b) the characteristics of the subject population being studied;
2. related or possibly related to participation in the research (in this guidance document, *possibly related* means there is a reasonable possibility that the incident, experience, or outcome may have been caused by the procedures involved in the research); and
3. suggests that the research places subjects or others at a greater risk of harm (including physical, psychological, economic, or social harm) than was previously known or recognized.

