

Date: December 01, 2022

News from HiREB

HiREB is pleased to share that we have updated the format of the letters sent through our electronic REB platform (eREB). Key changes:

- Standardization of key information
- Changes in the start of the ethics approval period (General Research Applications - GRA)

We are excited to implement these changes and for the benefits to HiREB and researchers alike. The changes provide improved clarity and transparency about the administrative details of the review and are expected to streamline research ethics administration for researchers.

Standardization of Key Information:

Historically, the HiREB letters have varied substantially, depending on the type of letter and the type of application. This has made it challenging for researchers and sponsors to find key details (like the review type or approval dates). The new format ensures a standardized approach to presenting key information. The content of the letters changes slightly (for example, the approval date is only on an approval letter) but the key details can now be found in the top/upper section of the letter.

HiREB has provided REB Attestations (REBA) upon request by Sponsors. With this new letter format, the required attestation elements are much easier for sponsors to find. As a result, HiREB will no longer be completing REBA for approvals sent using the new letter format. If a sponsor requests a REBA, the researchers can provide a copy of [this memo](#) instead.

Changes in the ethics approval start date (GRA)

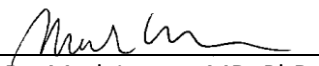
In the past, the ethics approval period started with the full board meeting date, even if the study didn't receive final approval until a later point in time. This meant that the first renewal was due less than one year after the study started. This process was also confusing to researchers because it only applied to non-student GRAs, and not other application types. Moving forward, the ethics approval period will begin with the date of final approval, and will be for a period of one year (unless the REB specifically determines that more frequent review is needed).

Should there be any questions, please do not hesitate to contact:

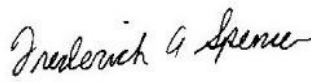
Erin Bell, HiREB Manager

Email: belle@hhsc.ca


Phone: 905 521-2100 Ext 42013



Dr. Mark Inman, MD, PhD.
Chair, HiREB



Dr. Fred Spencer, MD
Chair, HiREB



Ms. Erin Bell, M.Sc.
Manager, HiREB