

Non-Research Activities

- Quality assurance activities or evaluation projects designed for self-improvement or program evaluation, not meant to contribute to "generalizable" knowledge.
- Interviews of individuals where questions focus on things not on people (eg. questions about policies, general facts about an organization or business).
- Searches of existing literature or analysis of aggregate or public data that cannot be linked to a living individual (e.g. data sets available on the web that do not require any sort of privacy/confidentiality agreement or special request procedure, newspaper accounts, census data held in public libraries, published school test scores). *However, if access to the data is limited to researchers, and not publicly available, then IRB review is needed.*
- Single case studies in which all data already exists. *However, if this includes medical record review, there may be obligations under HIPAA privacy law.*