

IRB Guidance Related to the Federal Transition

As the Executive Order (EO) directs Agencies to update their regulations and guidance within 120 days, NC State University is expecting updated guidance related to human subject research.

It is not yet clear how the EO affects the asking of sex/gender questions of research participants. For NEW studies that are federally funded, make data collection anonymous (where possible). Consider if sex/gender data must be collected. If needed, collection is okay with a scientific justification. The IRB suggests that federally funded research use phrasing such as “What is your sex?” and provide a free response/open text OR the response options as “Male, Female, Prefer Not to Answer.

Updated 7/21/2025: If you receive NIH funding for your research activities, please refer to [NIH's revised policy on the “Inclusion of Women and Minorities as Subjects in Clinical Research”](#) (opens in a new window).

If you have further questions about IRB guidance in relation to the Federal transition, please email Dr. Jennie Ofstein at IRB-Director@ncsu.edu.