

IRB ANNUAL REPORT

Jan – Dec 2023

Committee for the Protection of Human Subjects

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CPHS FACULTY REPORT

The UTHealth Houston Human Research Protection Program (HRPP) is committed to continuous quality improvement. This means we actively reflect on and refine our processes, ensuring efficient and effective review. We gather feedback from researchers, analyze data, and implement evidence-based changes. This ongoing loop strengthens our ability to safeguard research participants while fostering scientific progress, ultimately promoting a culture of excellence in ethical research conduct.

As part of the quality improvement effort, the HRPP earned full accreditation by the Association for the Accreditation of Human Research Protection Programs (AAHRPP) in June 2009 and has maintained its accredited status continuously since then.

The quality assurance plan includes review of IRB metrics and feedback from the research community to assess the quality, efficiency, and effectiveness of the program and make improvements, when necessary, to increase the quality, efficiency, and effectiveness of the program.

This report dives into the UTHealth Houston IRB's operations in 2023. It includes data on the submissions reviewed by the IRB in 2023, including types of submissions and turnaround time.

If you have questions, suggestions, or feedback, or if you would like more information about IRB operations, please contact cphs@uth.tmc.edu.

IRB PERSONNEL

IRB Leadership

Institutional Official

Anne Dougherty, MD
Vice President, Human Research Protection Program

IRB Panel 1

Chair: Rebecca Lunstroth, JD
Vice Chair: Rita Swinford, MD

IRB Panel 3

Chair: Charles Miller, PhD
Vice Chair: Catherine Thompson, BSN, MPH

IRB Panel 2

Chair: Deborah Brown, MD Vice
Chair: Francine Snow, DrPH

IRB Panel 4

Chair: Max Buja, MD
Vice Chair: Joy Schmitz, PhD

IRB Membership Roster: [Current Term - September 2023 to August 2024](#)

IRB Staff:

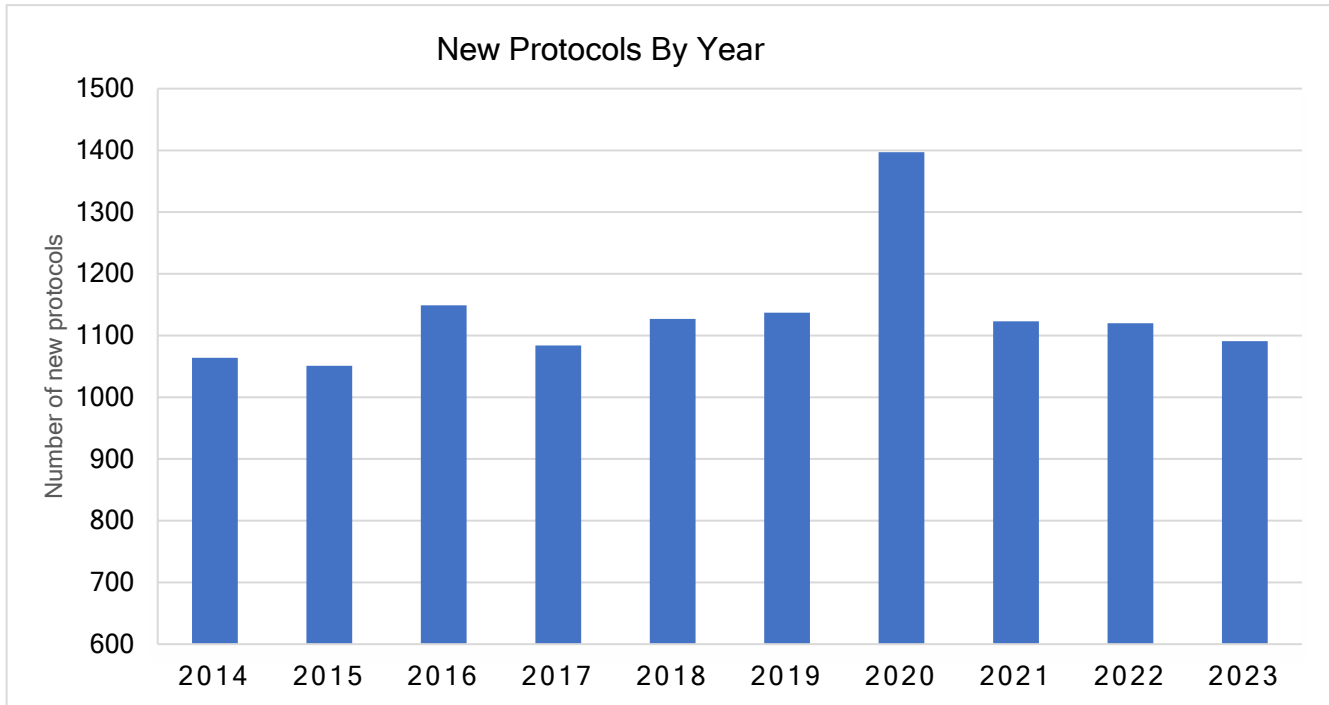
Sylvia Romo, BSBM, Assistant Director, Research Compliance
Susan Vanessa Fuller, BS, IRB Manager
Alba Zeigler, BS, CPhT, IRB Coordinator
Chandni Chaudhari, MD, IRB Coordinator
Gabrielle Longo, BS, IRB Coordinator
Ryesha Cook, MBA, IRB Coordinator
Meagan Olivares, BS, CCRP, Research Compliance Specialist (Reliance Agreements)
Laura Lincoln, BS, IRB Coordinator (QI Registry)
Adrick Harris, BS, Graduate Research Assistant
Barbara Legate, BS, Sr. Business Systems Analyst (iRIS Support)

Research Compliance Staff:

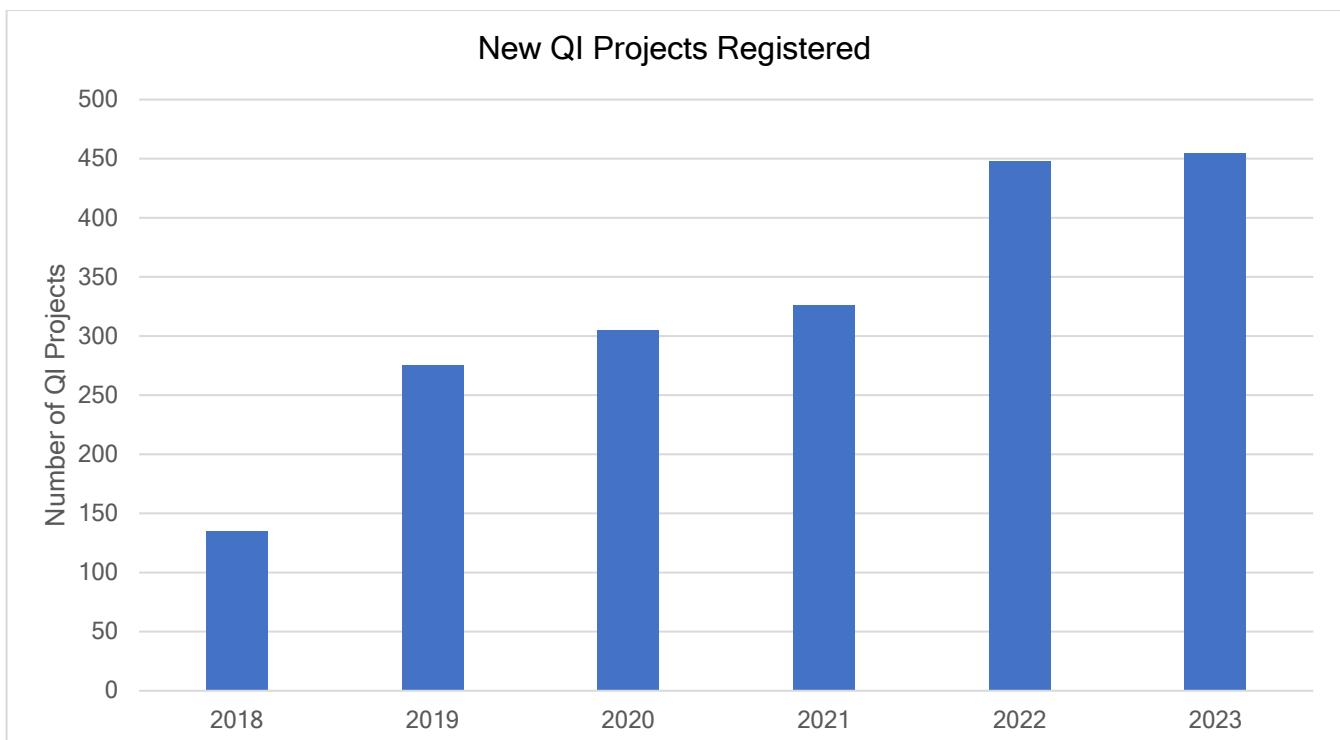
Sujatha Sridhar, MBBS, Associate Vice President, Research Compliance (IRB Policies)
Elizabeth Gendel, PhD, Director, Research Compliance (Regulatory Reviewer)
Shwetha Pazhoor, MS, Sr. Research Compliance Specialist (Post-Approval Audits)
Jessica Martinez, MPH, Research Compliance Specialist (Post-Approval Audits)

IRB WORKLOAD METRICS

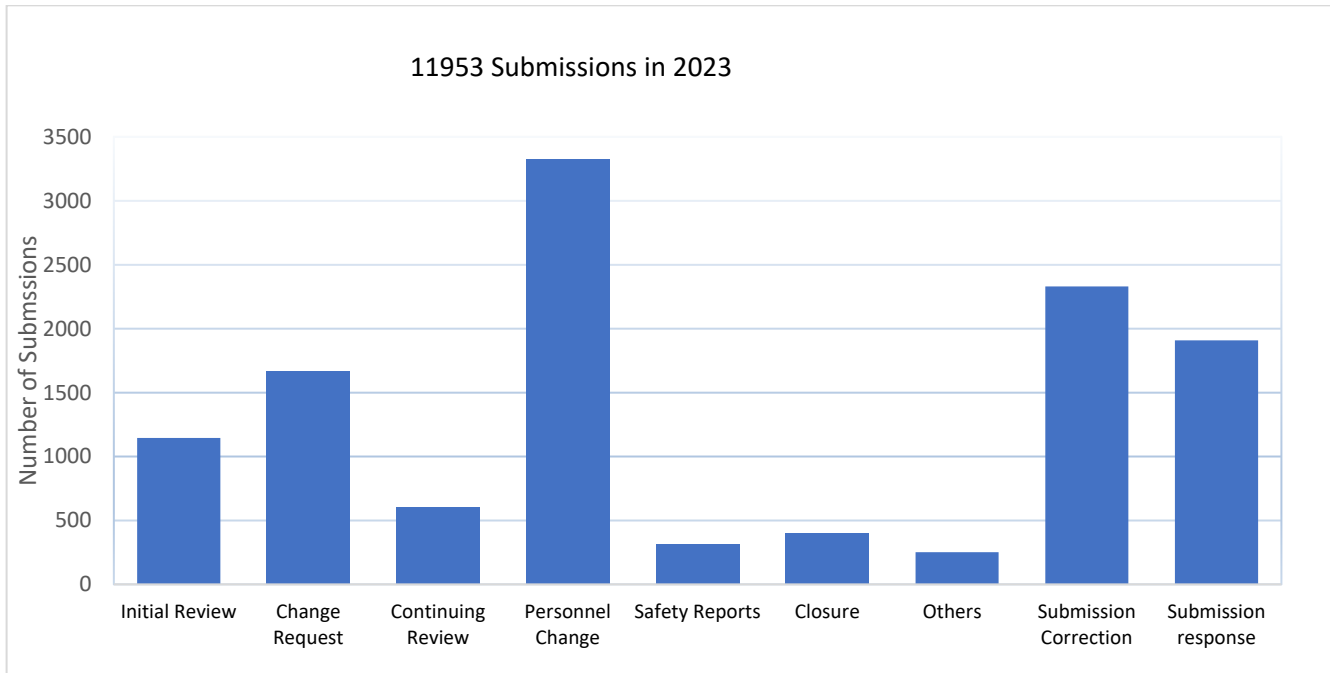
New Protocols Submitted for IRB Review



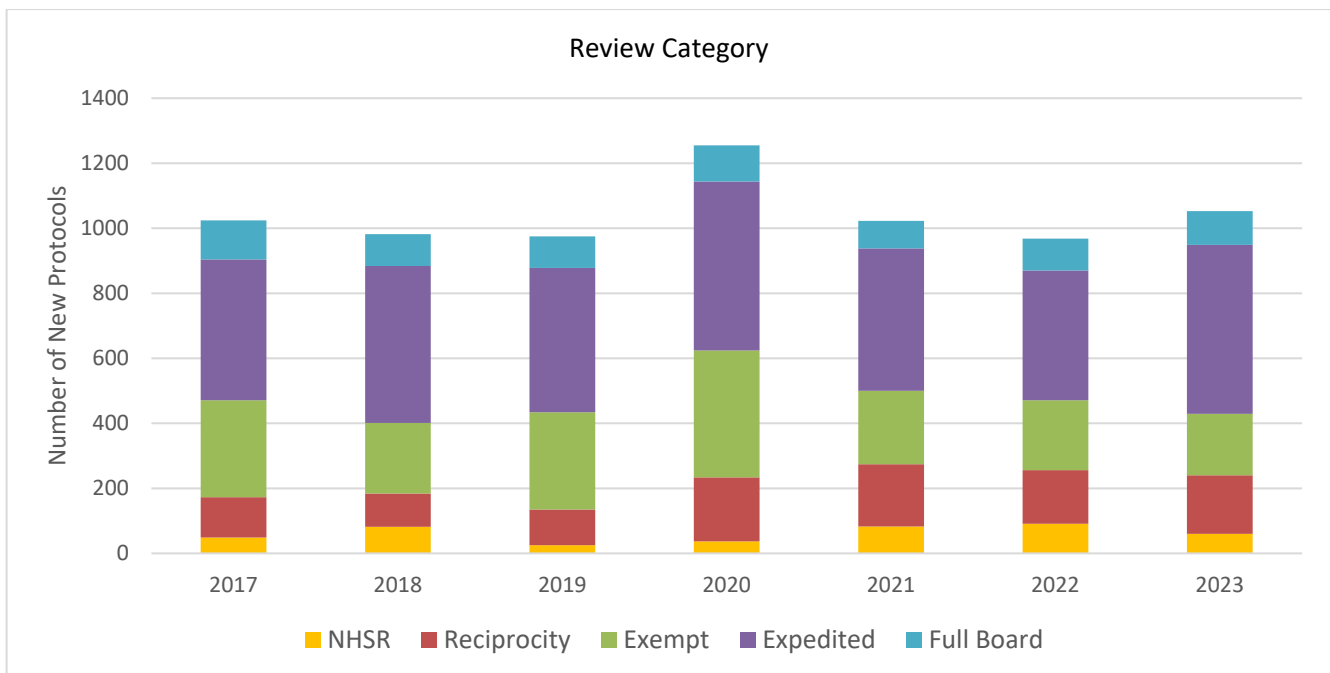
New Quality Improvement Projects Submitted to QI Registry



Submissions by Type in 2023



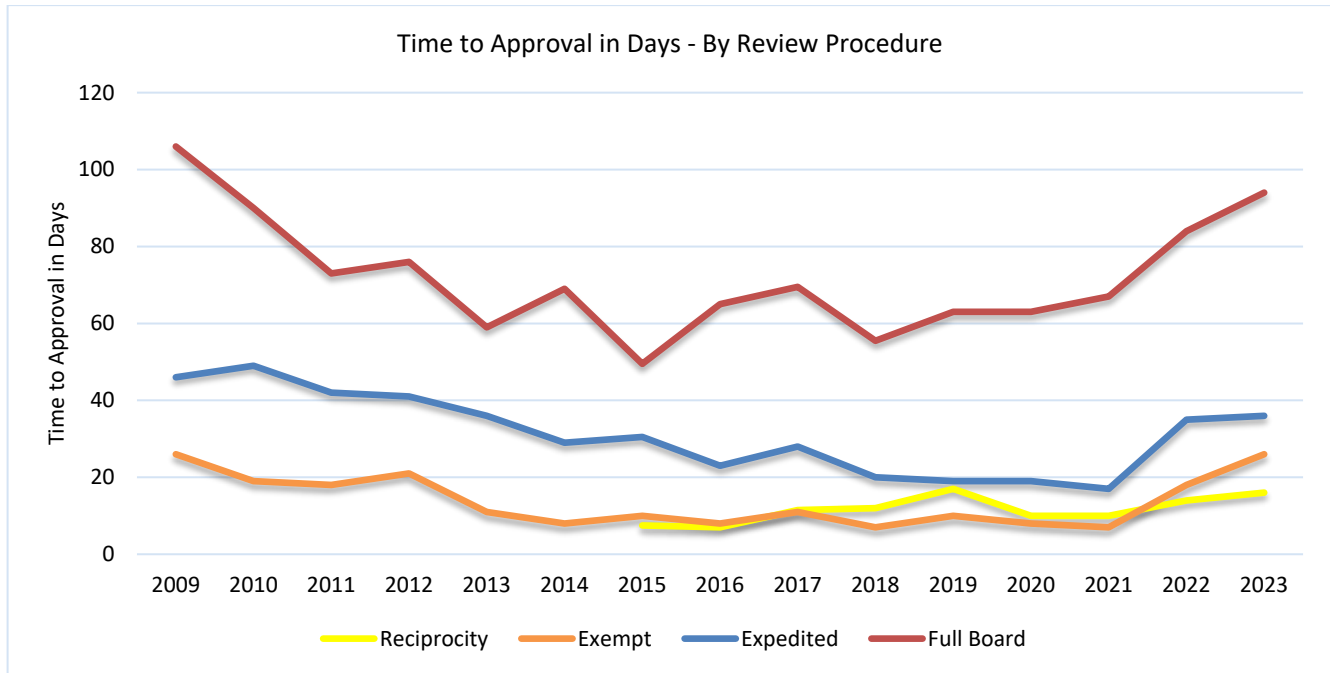
New Protocols Approved from 2017 - 2023 by Review Category



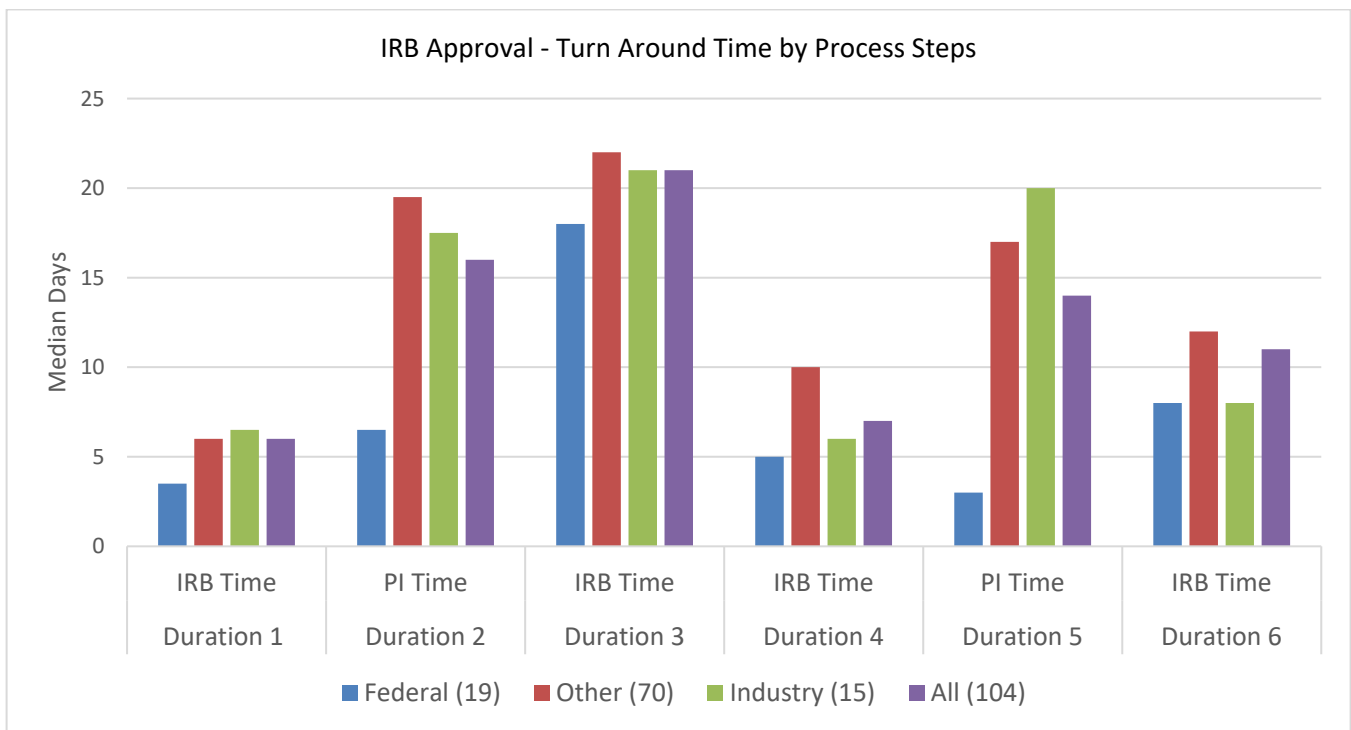
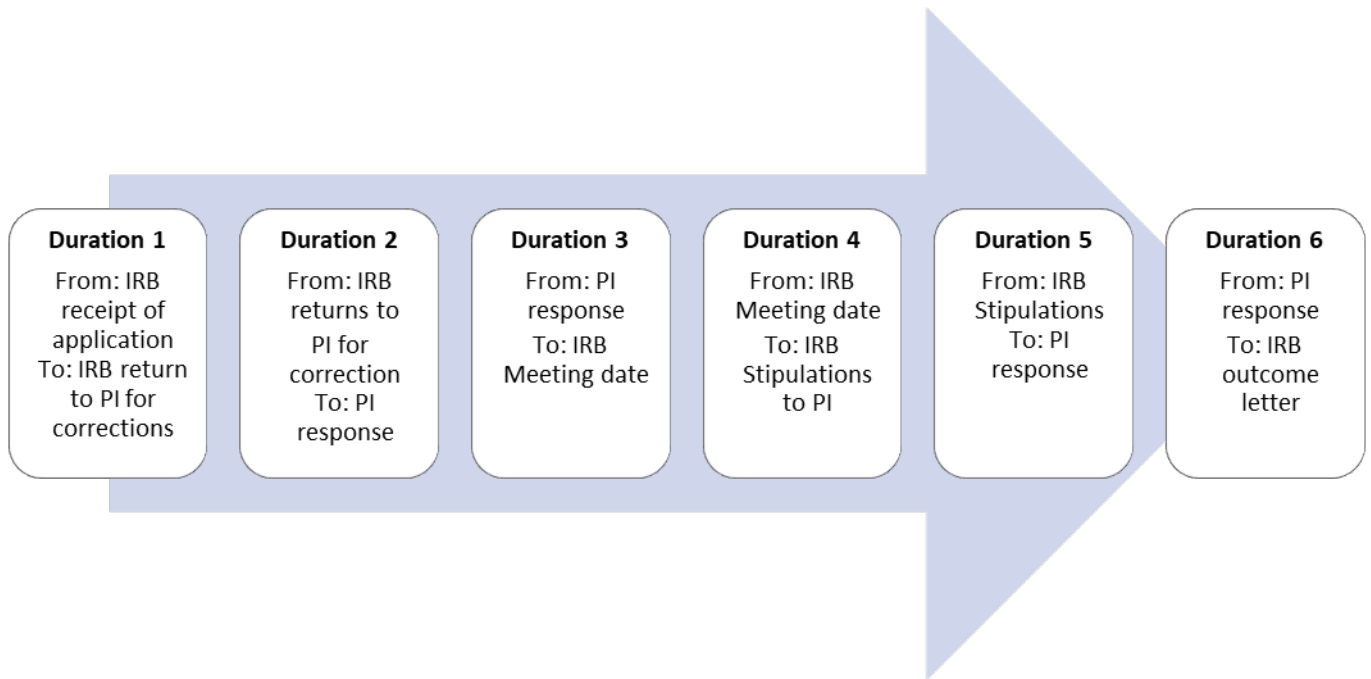
NHSR – Not Human Subjects Research

IRB OPERATIONS METRICS

Time to Approval for Initial Reviews by Review Category



Turnaround Time for New Protocols Approved by Full Board



RESEARCH COMMUNITY FEEDBACK

A link to a feedback survey is sent with IRB outcome letters. Between January 2023 and December 2023, there were 113 responses.

