



NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION
OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL
OFFICE OF INVESTIGATIONS

CLOSEOUT MEMORANDUM

Case Number: A13120093

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We received a notice from an institution¹ that the IRB determined serious noncompliance in relation to human subjects research work conducted by a PI² who was sponsored under a recently closed NSF award.³ The IRB suspended the PI's human subjects research work as the PI recruited participants who were not given informed consent forms. The IRB and the institution took corrective measures to ensure that the collected data was not used and revised the standard operating procedures of the PI and laboratory staff regarding informed consent forms, compensation and protocol modifications. Remedial educational sessions regarding proper human subjects work were completed by the PI and laboratory staff. The IRB suspension of the PI's human subjects research work was lifted when the IRB approved three new separate IRB protocols applications to replace the previous IRB protocol that was inactivated.

Our review of the matter concluded that appropriate actions were taken by the institution and the IRB to ensure to the proper oversight in NSF funded projects involving human subjects. Accordingly, this case is closed with no further action taken.

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