**NIH Single IRB Review Mandate**

Effective for NIH applications due on or after January 25, 2018 or contract solicitations published on or after January 25, 2018 the NIH mandates that there be a single IRB review for NIH funded/supported multi-site (also referred to a multi-center) clinical trials conducted in the U.S.  A multi-site clinical trial is one in which each participating site implements the full research protocol and acts independently of the other sites; reporting data back to a central coordinating site.  The NIH mandate does not apply to collaborative research.  In collaborative research each site carries out a portion of the protocol and data is shared between the sites.

For NIH funded/supported multi-site clinical trials, even if the PI is a UConn Health PI, the UConn Health IRB does not intend to serve as the reviewing (i.e. single) IRB.  IRB reliance agreements (also known as IRB authorization agreements) are in place with various commercial IRBs. It is recommended that one of those commercial IRBs be noted as the reviewing IRB when the proposal for funding is submitted.   Currently, IRB reliance agreements are in place between UConn Health and [Quorum IRB](https://www.quorumreview.com/), [Schulman IRB](http://www.sairb.com/), and [Western IRB](https://www.wirb.com/Pages/default.aspx).    It is the responsibility of the investigator to budget accordingly for IRB review services.

[Additional guidance is available from the NIH.](https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-18-004.html)