

Image recording

A. Purpose

To provide a summary of investigator responsibilities when using image recording as part of a research activity.

B. Revision history

Originally issued: September 2013

C. Persons affected

All NWHSU University faculty, staff, students, patients, and agents of the institution

D. Policy

When using image recording as part of a research activity, all participants must sign consent forms - or image recording will not be allowed. Adherence to this guideline is based on the application of the informed consent rules (45 CFR 46.116). Participation in research has to be voluntary, and a person cannot be required to participate in a research activity without having first given informed consent.

Since each participant whose image is captured has to have consented to participate, all participants must consent because it is logistically and technically difficult, if not impossible, to avoid capturing images of non-consenting participants. When a researcher indicates they will not use data from, or will blur/erase images of non-consenting students, the fact remains that students have still been image-recorded against their will. A person retains the right to not participate in the research; this includes simply being captured on image as part of the research activity. Furthermore, attempting to segregate the participants from those non-consenting may be coercive and stigmatizing, as it clearly identifies who declined to participate.