

An Overview of the Secretary's Advisory Committee on Human Research Protections (SACHRP)

www.hhs.gov/ohrp/sachrp-committee/index.html



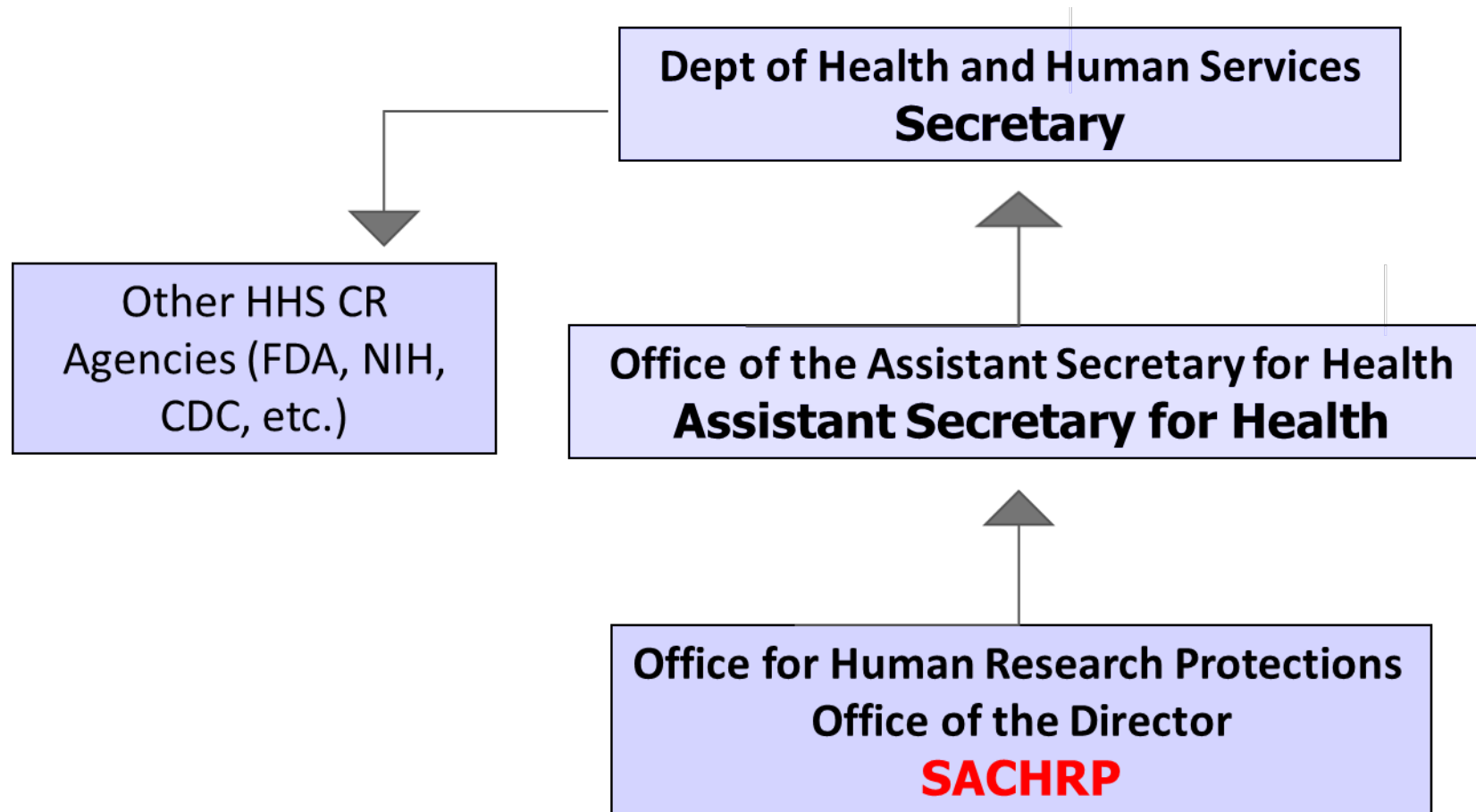
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What Is SACHRP, and What Should You Know About It?

- What is a federal advisory committee, and how does it function?
- What role does SACHRP serve within HHS?
- How are SACHRP members selected?
- Why are SACHRP recommendations relevant for your institution?
- What's the difference between SACHRP recommendations and OHRP guidance?

HHS-SACHRP Organizational Structure



SACHRP Is a *Federal Advisory Committee*

Federal advisory committees are governed by the Federal Advisory Committee Act, or FACA, which was enacted in 1972 to ensure that advice provided to government agencies is objective and accessible.

FACA specifies the establishment and operation of advisory committees. For example, committees must be chartered, and meetings must be announced in advance and open to the public.

All materials must be publicly available, in addition to meeting minutes.

SACHRP issues consensus advice, rarely issuing minority opinions.

GSA Federal Advisory Committee Act Database

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Welcome to the GSA Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) Database

The Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) database is used by Federal agencies to continuously manage an average of 1,000 advisory committees government-wide. This database is also used by the Congress to perform oversight of related Executive Branch programs and by the public, the media, and others, to stay abreast of important developments resulting from advisory committee activities.

Although centrally supported by the General Services Administration's Committee Management Secretariat, the database represents a true "shared system" wherein each participating agency and individual committee manager has responsibility for providing accurate and timely information that may be used to assure that the system's wide array of users has access to data required by FACA.

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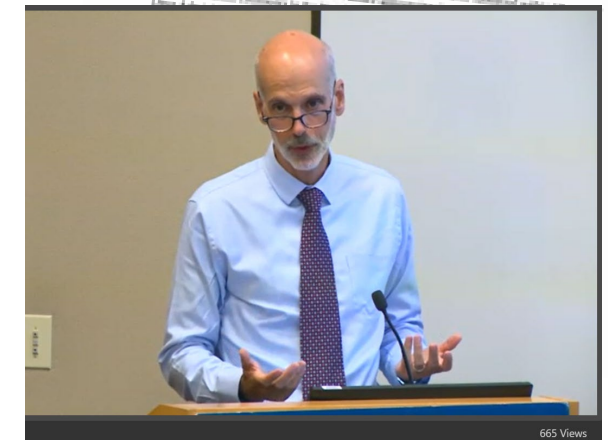
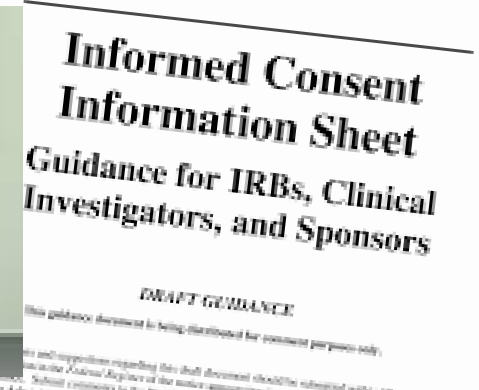
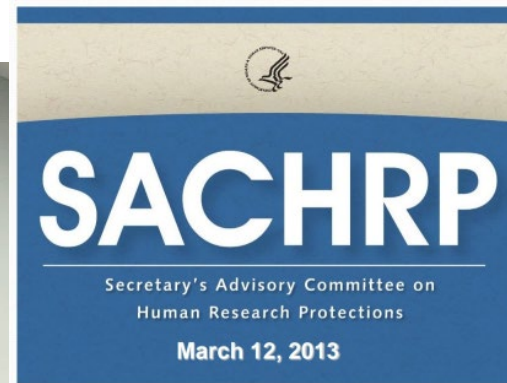
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What Does SACHRP Do?

SACHRP provides recommendations to HHS on a wide variety of matters related to human subjects protections.



SACHRP Recommendations

[SACHRP Meetings](#)[SACHRP Recommendations](#)[SACHRP Subcommittees](#)[SACHRP Archived Materials](#)

SACHRP Recommendations

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SACHRP advisory documents are the result of considerable Committee effort, deliberation and consensus building. Once the Committee achieves consensus on an issue, its recommendations are posted on this website and transmitted by the Chair to the Secretary of Health and Human Services, Assistant Secretary for Health, and to the Director of OHRP for their consideration. The content of these documents is advisory and does not represent the official views or policies of OHRP or the Department of Health and Human Services.

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<https://www.hhs.gov/ohrp/sachrp-committee/recommendations/index.html>

SACHRP History within HHS

- Office for the Protection of Research Risks (NIH) becomes the Office for Human Research Protections (OS, HHS) – 2000
- National Human Research Protections Advisory Committee (NHRPAC), 2000–2002
- Secretary's Advisory Committee for Human Research Protections (SACHRP), 2003–ongoing

Description of Duties from SACHRP's Charter

The Committee shall advise, consult with, and make recommendations on matters pertaining to the continuance and improvement of functions within the authority of the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) directed toward protections for human subjects in research.

...In addition, the Committee shall be responsible for reviewing selected ongoing work and planned activities of the Office for Human Research Protections (OHRP) and other offices/agencies within HHS responsible for human subjects protection.

SACHRP Meetings

- Meets 3 times per year in a publicly accessible format
- 11 voting members with 3- to 4-year terms
- Non-voting ex officio members represent HHS agencies
- Agenda is set by OHRP in consultation with the Chair



How Are SACHRP Members Chosen?

- Nominations are solicited through a federal register notice or other referral to OHRP; nominees submit their CV and a letter declaring their willingness to serve if selected. Nominees may be nominated by others or self-nominated, with accompanying CVs.
- Nominees are reviewed by OHRP based on the anticipated needs of the committee's expertise, as well as geographic, gender, ethnic, community, and work sector diversity.
- Once selected by OHRP, draft nominees must be approved by HHS and undergo rigorous scrutiny, including financial disclosure and ethics training, prior to final confirmation.

Why Are SACHRP Recommendations Important?

1. SACHRP advisory documents are the result of considerable committee effort, deliberation, and consensus building among well-respected experts and Common Rule agency representatives.
2. Recommendations are a direct line of communication with HHS aimed at informing HHS and OHRP decision-making and policy interpretation and may be considered when developing OHRP guidance.
3. Recommendations often represent institutional best practices and practical points to consider crafted with careful attention to regulatory considerations.
4. Recommendations are posted on the OHRP website at www.hhs.gov/ohrp/sachrp-committee/recommendations/index.html

Are Recommendations the Same as OHRP Guidance?

No. The content of SACHRP recommendations is advisory and does not represent the official views or policies of OHRP or the Department of Health and Human Services.

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