1. PURPOSE

To define the various types of unanticipated problems related to nonexempt human subject research and outline submission requirements.

2. SCOPE

This SOP applies to all nonexempt human subject research reviewed by Aurora’s IRB and conducted by researchers on staff at or affiliated with Aurora Health Care, conducted at any AHC facility, or utilizing individually identifiable data of AHC patients.

Note: If review of a study has been ceded to an external IRB, the external IRB’s policy on reporting of unanticipated problems must be followed.

3. DEFINITIONS

External Unanticipated Problem is an Unanticipated Problems that occurs on a multi-center study that Aurora is engaged in but does not occur at an Aurora facility (i.e., the Unanticipated Problem occurs at another center). [External Unanticipated Problems are not Unanticipated Problems that occur in studies ceded to non-Aurora IRB.]

Local Unanticipated Problem is an Unanticipated Problem that occurs at a site for which Aurora IRB has oversight.

Minimal Risk means that the probability and magnitude of harm or discomfort anticipated in the research are not greater in and of themselves than those ordinarily encountered in daily life or during the performance of routine physical or psychological examinations or tests.

Others may include but is not limited to research subjects’ family members, health care providers and research staff.

Significant New Information is any information not previously reported to the IRB about the research that may relate to subject’s willingness to continue participation. Significant new information may be revealed in publications, data safety monitoring reports, interim study results, revised package inserts, or other material.

Subject is a living individual(s) about whom an investigator conducting research obtains: (1) data through intervention or interaction with the individual; or (2) identifiable private information.

Unanticipated Problem (UP) is any incident, experience or outcome that is:

a) unexpected in terms of its nature, severity or frequency given the research and the characteristics of the Subject population being studied;
b) regarded as unwelcome or harmful and something that may need to be dealt with or overcome; and
c) is related or possibly related to the research.

**UPs** might include but are not limited to:

1. Complaints from Subjects or Others
2. Breaches of privacy or confidentiality
3. A series of adverse events and rarely a single adverse event (see FDA and OHRP guidance for a description of on those adverse events FDA and OHRP consider Unanticipated Problems Involving Risks to Subjects or Others requiring reporting to the IRB)
4. Events determined by a sponsor or multi-center lead PI to be meet the definition of a UPIRSO
5. Changes made to research without prior approval in order to eliminate apparent immediate harm
6. An unintentional change in the study plan for an individual Subject or series of Subjects
7. Subject noncompliance (e.g., missed dosing, refused appointment)
8. Significant New Findings
9. Other incidents, experiences or outcomes that are unexpected, related to the research, and unwelcome or harmful and something that may need to be dealt with or overcome.

**Unanticipated Problem Involving Risks to Subjects or Others (UPIRSO)** is an Unanticipated Problem that the IRB Chair/designee determines involves a new or increased risk to Subjects or Others (including physical, psychological, economic or social) that either might affect Subjects’ willingness to continue participation or requires some action (e.g., modification of the consent process, informing participants, modifying the study protocol or procedures, etc.).

4. **POLICY**

   This SOP implements requirements at sections 4.2g)i) & ii), 4.2h)i) and 4.2j) of AHC System Policy #811 – Research Involving Humans or Their Identifiable Data or Biospecimens.

5. **PROCEDURE**

   5.1 What to Report

   a) Local UPs that, in the judgement of the PI or study sponsor, are determined to more likely than not meet the definition of an Unanticipated Problem Involving Risks to Subjects or Others (UPIRSO).

   b) External UPs that the sponsor or lead PI of a multi-center trial has determined meets the definition of a UPIRSO.

   5.2 When to Report
5.3 How to Report

a) Report UPs using the *Unanticipated Problem Reporting* form.

b) If there are also changes to previously approved research as a result of a UP, report those in accordance with RSPP SOP 9 - *Changes to Previously Approved Research--Submission & Implementation Requirements*.

5.4 Reporting

See RSPP SOP 12 – *External Reporting* for reporting procedures.