Parental Permission

45 CFR 46.408(b) (OHRP) and 21 CFR 50.55(e)(2) (FDA)

...the IRB will determine, in accordance with and to the extent that consent is required, that adequate provisions are made for soliciting the permission of each child’s parents or guardian. Where parental permission is to be obtained, the IRB may find that the permission of one parent is sufficient for research to be conducted under §46.404/§50.51 or §46.405/§50.52. Where research is covered by §46.406/§50.53 and §46.407/§50.54 and permission is to be obtained from parents, both parents must give their permission unless one parent is deceased, unknown, incompetent, or not reasonably available, or when only one parent has legal responsibility for the care and custody of the child.

The IRB may determine that the permission of one parent is sufficient. If the IRB determines that permission of two parents is required, then the investigator must obtain both parents’ permission unless one parent is deceased, unknown, incompetent, not reasonably available* or only one parent has legal responsibility for the care and custody of the child.

**The consent form includes signature lines for both parents:**

Signature of LAR ___________________________ Date ________________

(Parent, guardian, or conservator)

Authority to Act for participant ___________________________ Date ________________

(If available) Signature of ___________________________ Date ________________

Authorization to Act for participant ___________________________

**Not reasonably available**

*Means* the other parent is not present during the consenting process, or will not be available prior to start of research procedures.

*Examples of not reasonably available:*

The other parent is at work, caring for other children, or traveling.

The other parent is on active military duty and is not contactable by phone, mail, email or fax.

The other parent is incarcerated and is not contactable by phone, mail, email or fax.

The whereabouts of the other parent are unknown. **Meaning** the other parent is not contactable by phone, mail, email or fax or the other parent’s whereabouts are unknown.

**Does not mean** the other parent is at work, at home, lives in another city, state or country, but is contactable by phone, mail, email or fax

**Examples of not reasonably available:**

The other parent is at work, caring for other children, or traveling.

The other parent is on active military duty and is not contactable by phone, mail, email or fax.

The other parent is incarcerated and is not contactable by phone, mail, email or fax.

The whereabouts of the other parent are unknown.
**45 CFR 46.406 and 21 CFR 50.53**

Research involving greater than minimal risk and no prospect of direct benefit to individual subjects, but likely to yield generalizable knowledge about the subjects’ disorder or condition.

...the IRB finds that more than minimal risk to children is presented by an intervention or procedure that does not hold out the prospect of direct benefit for the individual subject, or by a monitoring procedure...the IRB finds:

(a) The risk represents a minor increase over minimal risk;
(b) The intervention or procedure presents experiences to subjects that are reasonably commensurate with those inherent in their actual or expected medical, dental, psychological, social, or educational situations;
(c) The intervention or procedure is likely to yield generalizable knowledge about the subjects’ disorder or condition which is of vital importance for the understanding or amelioration of the subjects' disorder or condition; and
(d) Adequate provisions are made for soliciting assent of the children and permission of their parents or guardians, as set forth in §46.408 or §50.55.

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**45 CFR 46.405 and 21 CFR 50.52**

Research involving greater than minimal risk but presenting the prospect of direct benefit to the individual subjects.

...the IRB find that more than minimal risk to children is presented by an intervention or procedure that holds out the prospect of direct benefit for the individual subject, or by monitoring procedure that is likely to contribute to the well-being of the subject...the IRB finds that:

(a) The risk is justified by the anticipated benefit to the subjects;
(b) The relation of the anticipated benefit to the risk is at least as favorable to the subjects as that presented by available alternative approaches; and
(c) Adequate provisions are made for soliciting the assent of the children and permission of their parents or guardians, as set forth in §46.408 or §50.55.