REPS

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Research Ethics and Policy Series

Data monitoring committees: Oversight of trials and relationships with IRBs

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Data Monitoring Committees (DMCs), or Data and Safety Monitoring Boards (DSMBs), are established to monitor the accumulating data from a clinical trial to make sure it continues to be safe for trial participants and remains on track to yield reliable results. DMCs typically review interim trial data more frequently, and in much more depth, than IRBs, so they provide more in-depth oversight. But DMCs may provide little if any protection over and above that provided by others in many cases, and they add a layer of complexity to a clinical trial. In this presentation we will discuss the issues to consider in determining when a DMC is needed, and when the oversight provided by trial investigators, IRBs, funders, and regulators is adequate.

Commentary by

Mark S. Schreiner, MD

Executive Vice-Chair, Committees for the Protection of Human Subjects
The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia

Monday, February 4, 2019

Austrian Auditorium, Clinical Research Building
415 Curie Boulevard, University of Pennsylvania
12–1 P.M.

Lunch will be provided for attendees

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