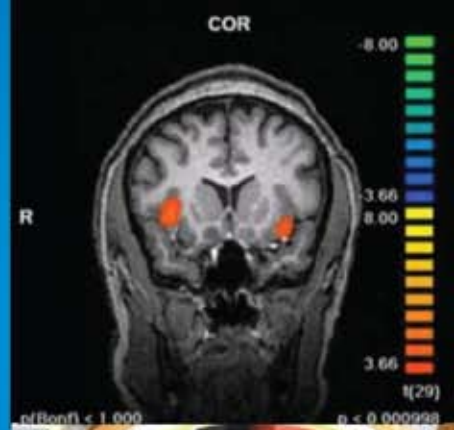




Expedited Review of Social and Behavioral Research Activities

*Social and Behavioral Research Working Group
Human Subjects Research Subcommittee
Committee on Science
National Science and Technology Council*

June, 2008



About the National Science and Technology Council

The National Science and Technology Council (NSTC) is the principal means by which the Executive Branch coordinates science and technology policy across the diverse entities that make up the Federal research and development enterprise. A primary objective of the NSTC is establishing clear national goals for Federal science and technology investments. The NSTC prepares research and development strategies that are coordinated across Federal agencies to form investment packages aimed at accomplishing multiple national goals. The work of the NSTC is organized under four committees: Science, Technology, Environment and Natural Resources, and Homeland and National Security. Each of these committees oversees subcommittees and working groups focused on different aspects of science and technology. More information is available at <http://www.ostp.gov/nstc>.

About the Human Subjects Research Subcommittee

The Human Subjects Research Subcommittee (HSRS) of the National Science and Technology Council's Committee on Science has the goal of promoting the protection of individuals who participate as subjects in federally funded and regulated research. Representatives from all of the Federal offices and agencies involved in human research meet on a bimonthly basis to help coordinate the policies and practices of the Federal government's oversight of human research. The Subcommittee's involvement began with the development of the *Federal Policy for the Protection of Human Subjects in Research*, generally known as the "Common Rule," and continues in its mission to facilitate consistent implementation of this Common Rule across the Federal government.

About this document

This document discusses the expedited review procedure allowed under Federal regulations for certain categories of research involving human subjects. These categories of research are identified in a list published by the Secretary of Health and Human Services and the Food and Drug Administration in the *Federal Register*. The list is amended, as appropriate, by the Secretary and the Food and Drug Administration, after consultation with other departments and agencies, and republished in the *Federal Register*, and made available by the Office for Human Research Protections on its website at <http://www.hhs.gov/ohrp/>. Readers of this document need to be mindful of whether the list of categories of research eligible for expedited review have been amended and re-published since the time of issuance of this document.

Cover Information

Cover images clockwise from top right: Functional magnetic resonance image portraying an axial view of the brain (credit: James Rilling, Emory University); an optokinetic drum used to study the perceptual and physiological causes of motion sickness (credit: Frederick Bonato, Saint Peter's College); an electrophoresis unit used to conduct DNA fingerprinting (credit: University of Arizona); a developmental study on the capacity of infants to perceive and evaluate social interactions (credit: Karen Wynn, Yale University); a researcher uses a sphygmomanometer to screen a subject for signs of hypertension (credit: James Gathany); an American epidemiologist interviews malaria control workers for a Pakistani toxicologic study of malathion, a poison used against mosquito populations (credit: Edward Baker); a Tibetan woman participates in a study on nitric oxide in the breath of high altitude populations, and its significance to human adaptation in a low oxygen environment (credit: Cynthia Beall, Case Western Reserve University).

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