



For Immediate Media Release
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2007 Human Research Protection Award Recipients Announced

Bethesda, Maryland (December 10, 2007) — Winners of the 2007 Award for Excellence in Human Research Protection were announced today by Dr. Peter G. Goldschmidt, President and Founder of the Health Improvement Institute.

Winners were:

- **University of Kentucky (UK)**, for its best practice, *Online Clinical Trials Principal Investigator Self Assessment Form*. This form is designed to educate the University's researchers on the mechanisms by which human subjects are protected. The self-assessment provides researchers an opportunity to improve human research protections performance of their own accord. The result of the self-assessment also provides useful information to the UK Office of Research Integrity (ORI) for identifying needed education/training initiatives for researchers, their staff, UK ORI staff, and Institutional Review Board members.
- **Washington University**, for its innovation, *Internet Research Guideline*. This guideline is designed for researchers and Institutional Review Board members. It provides information on the ethical considerations and concerns associated with research conducted via the Internet.

"The award programs offer a way to gain positive recognition for excellence in the field of human research protection," said Dr. Goldschmidt. "This year's winners continue the high standard in best practices and innovations that have been submitted for an award since the program began."

Awards are given for demonstrated excellence in promoting the well being of people who participate in research. The Health Improvement Institute created this awards program. The Office of Human Research Protection was the founding sponsor of the awards program. Judges and Committee and Award Advisory Board members are volunteers. This year's judges were drawn from provider, research review and legal/consulting organizations.

About Health Improvement Institute:

Health Improvement Institute is a non-profit, tax exempt, 501(c)3, charitable organization dedicated to improving the quality and productivity of America's health care. The Institute's principal program objective is to provide information to enable people to make informed health care choices. The Institute has established expertise in evaluating the quality of health information on the Internet, conducts forms and workshops, and sponsors national awards programs to recognize excellence, including the *Award for Excellence in Human Research Protection*. For more information, visit www.hii.org.

The Office for Human Research Protections (OHRP) – together with the federal Food and Drug Administration – oversees programs for the protections of human subjects at more than 4,000 HHS-funded universities, hospitals, and other medical and behavioral research institutions and private research sites in the United States and abroad.

For information about the **2008 Award for Excellence in Human Research Protection**, please contact the Awards Coordinator at 301-320-0971 or by email at hii@hii.org.