To IRB Members and ORI Staff:

To protect participant confidentiality, the IRB considers plans for securely archiving and/or destroying identifiable data. This is to ensure that the appropriate safeguards for security and confidentiality of the collected information are in place.

However, science is validated by reproducibility and corroboration, so data destruction can be counterproductive. Journals and funding agencies (i.e., NSF/NIH) have reproducibility requirements that may dictate that primary or aggregate data be retained, in some cases beyond the University minimum. The ability to access data and replicate research results builds confidence in published findings.

In developing data-management plans, research investigators consider both data-security and data-preservation for reproducibility. The following are resources on data management, retention and sharing:

1. The [UK Libraries Data Management Research Guide](http://libguides.uky.edu/c.php?p=223382&p=1478751) is the “go-to” resource for data management, data preservation, and data sharing. Includes metadata standards and [Data Management Planning Tool](http://uknowledge.uky.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1000&context=rdsc_workshops) that provides templates for all of the major funding agencies.

2. [Research Data Management: Basics & Best Practices Training](http://uknowledge.uky.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1000&context=rdsc_workshops), January 2017

Christie Peters, Head, Science Library & eScience Initiatives
3. **UK Good Research Practice (GRP) Resource Center**

The GRP Resource Center assists researchers who are seeking to strengthen their research programs and meet NHI/NSF or regulatory (FDA/EPA) standards by supporting data quality, integrity and reproducibility.

UK GRP Website Excerpt:

Data Sharing and Record Retention

It is recommended that data and reports are maintained in a durable format using a consistent filing and retrieval system that ensures records can be readily provided if requested during consideration for publication and upon reasonable request upon publication as per ‘data and material sharing’ guidelines\(^1\) and expected policy changes requiring ‘on-line access to methods, protocols, original data, data reductions and analysis protocols’\(^2\).

Purpose: To ensure accurate records are maintained and are readily accessible as per NIH/NSF and journal principles and guidelines for reporting preclinical research\(^1,2\)

\(^1\) Principles and Guidelines for Reporting Preclinical Research. Data and material sharing.

4. **NIH Webinar Best Practices in Data Management and Reporting**

Efforts to enhance scientific rigor, reproducibility and robustness critically depend on archiving and retrieving experimental records, protocols, primary data and subsequent analyses. In this webinar, presenters discuss best practices and challenges for data management and reporting, particularly when dealing with information security and sensitive material; archiving and disclosure of pre- and post-hoc data analytics; and data management on multidisciplinary teams that include collaborators around the globe.

Webinar 4: Best Practices in Data Management and Reporting  
Post-Webinar Discussion Questions