Center for Outcomes & Health Services Research (COHSR)

Research Steps & Services Overview

Disclaimer: This content is not inclusive.
Comply with required oversight and regulations.

1 QUESTION

Identify a topic or problem. Use Ochsner Medical Library Resources to review the literature & ensure that your question hasn't been thoroughly examined.

Ochsner Research eIRB

Complete required IRB training.

O2 Learning Portal

O2 Epic Learning Portal may provide detail on Ochsner practice guidelines, documentation, and workflows.

The Ochsner Patient Research Advisory Board (OPRAB) are patients who can help to prioritize your questions.

2 PREPARE

Define & refine your research plan.

Consult with the Epidemiology & Biostatistical Support for study design help (e.g. sample size, power, statistical analysis).

ProtocolBuilder®

Contact the IRB for a Protocol Builder tutorial for your team. Or Equator Network

SlicerDicer

For feasibility, query the potential number of patients your inclusion and exclusion criteria produce. Save your search parameters for use after IRB approval.

3 DESIGN

Write your protocol with ProtocolBuilder templates.

Discuss co-authorship requirements with collaborators, including COHSR consultants. Allow co-authors to review your protocol.

Submit your protocol to the IRB.

Consult with Clinical Research Informatics on data entry, retrieval, or processing methods (e.g. REDCap surveys, Epic recruitment, and free-text processing).

OPRAB patients can help review or dry-run your procedures for recruitment and data collection (surveys).

4 FIND YOUR PEOPLE

Contact the Office of Sponsored Programs to help prepare data use agreements (DUAs) to transfer data outside of Ochsner (e.g. to external email addresses).

SlicerDicer

After IRB approval, your saved SlicerDicer query can be filtered for patient recruitment (e.g. upcoming appointments).

Export and save your SlicerDicer patient list with medical record numbers (MRNs). Include this list in your Research Information Analysts data request.

5 GET YOUR DATA

ACE Analytics Center of Excellence

Create your data request to the Research Information Analysts. Look up commonly used Epic variable names and codes (e.g. ICD10, CPT, lab codes)in the Data Index. Supply variables and codes along with your list of MRNs, in your request.

REDCap Research Electronic Data Capture

For variables requiring manual data abstraction, meet with Clinical Research Informatics for quality & efficient abstraction and data entry via REDCap. Request an account through IS (Access to Existing Application).

6 ANALYZE

Review your data and codebook for errors (e.g. missing values, typos, duplicates).

Submit your Summary Sheet to the Epidemiology & Biostatistical Support team for data analysis & interpretation.

Deviating from protocol is not acceptable without an IRB Approval.

Discuss results with co-authors.

To get patient reactions of your results, consult with the OPRAB.

7 WRITE & DISSEMINATE

Find reporting guidelines and write up your results, conclusion and discussion.

Co-authors are required to critically review and approve the version to be published.

Ochsner

OHS Publishing Services and OHS Medical Illustrations Services can help.

OPRAB can consult on plain language dissemination of findings to patient audiences.

Research-In-Progress Forum: Last Wednesdays of each month, 12 – 1pm, Research Conference Room, Academic Building. Present your research idea to a group of colleagues. https://is.gd/Research_In_Progress_Forum