

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Department of Developmental Services
Research Review Committee Meeting Minutes
Date: May 5, 2023**

By Teams: Erin Brown (Chairperson), Kathleen Gallagher, Joshua Greenberg, Janet George, Patricia Shook, Joseph Weru, and Freddy Torbey (observer/minutes)

Additional Attendees:

Agenda Items

1. Administrative matters.
2. “Treatment of Countercontrol Behaviors in a Residential Setting,”
Dr. John O’Neill & Mr. Joseph Tacosik
3. “Psychotropic Medication Reduction and Applied Behavior Analysis,”
Drs. John O’Neill, Dawn O’Neill, & Nathan Blenkush

HOUSEKEEPING

- ☐ Chair established quorum
- ☐ Chair discussed quorum and noted the absence of Deborah Dreyfus and Rosalie Edes
- ☐ Chair summarized requirements for approval of research proposals pursuant to 115 CMR 10.08
- ☐ Chair presented proposals for discussion, which are the same as the proposals for the April 7, 2023, meeting, with additional requested information presented

Review and Vote on April 7, 2023, Meeting Minutes

Outcome

- ☐ Chair moved for a vote and Committee members unanimously agreed to adopt the April 7, 2023, meeting minutes

**“Treatment of Countercontrol Behaviors in a Residential Setting,”
Dr. John O’Neill & Mr. Joseph Tacosik**

Discussion and Issues

- ☐ RRC discussed the continued conflict between the small “N” and the respect for confidentiality of data accessed
- ☐ RRC discussed nature of study, appearing more akin to administrative review rather than novel research
- ☐ RRC discussed privacy protections, regardless of its status as research as defined by DDS regulations or administrative review
- ☐ RRC reviewed DDS regulatory definition of research and discussed whether project fell outside DDS regulation

- ☐ Responses to prior RRC questions seemed to provide restatement of the original proposal rather than address areas of the ambiguities cited in RRC's request for additional information
- ☐ At 1:43 PM, approximately 48 minutes into the meeting, contact with Joshua Greenberg was lost, quorum still maintained; Joshua Greenberg rejoined at 1:46 PM, approximately 51 minutes into the meeting

Outcome

- ☐ Chair moved, and RRC members unanimously agreed, that proposed study does not meet the regulatory definition of research and falls outside of the purview of the RRC

APPROVED RESEARCH

None

NON-APPROVED RESEARCH

None

CLOSING MATTERS

The next Committee meeting is scheduled for Friday, June 2, 2023.