

Transparency is key when it comes to explaining the use of technology in your study. This includes clearly outlining the specific technologies involved, such as hardware (e.g., wearables, brain scanners), software (e.g., data collection apps, online surveys), and online platforms (e.g., social media for recruitment).

The PI is responsible for determining whether the use of an instrument or device commonly used in the clinical setting is permitted in research. This includes understanding if permission from the 'owner' is necessary.

Address Data Security: Explain how you will ensure the security and privacy of participant data. This includes encryption methods, data storage procedures, and access control measures. Describe how you will comply with relevant data protection regulations (e.g., GDPR, HIPAA) and institutional policies.

When using an instrument or device connected to the Internet, the PI must determine whether information related to the instrument or device is collected, recorded, etc., by a third party. If it is, this must be explained in the proposal and included within the consent/assent process.

All technology used in research must be examined thoroughly regarding applicability and risk to participants. For example, in the case of medical devices, this information is usually included in the FDA approval document, operational manual, etc. All manuals will need to be uploaded.

Updates to Technology: If the technology you are using is updated during your study, consider how this might impact your study, for example, a change in participant risk, and whether it needs to be reported to the IRB. Complete the study modification process as you would for all changes.

Focus on Informed Consent: Adapt your informed consent document to address the technology used. Explain how data will be collected, stored, and used. Be transparent about potential risks associated with the technology (e.g., data breaches, privacy concerns).

Discuss potential risks and benefits associated with the technology:

1. Identify any potential risks or discomforts that participants may experience due to the use of technology, such as cybersecurity threats, technical difficulties, or privacy concerns- as mentioned above, be sure to refer to the manual for all identified risks.
2. Outline the steps taken to mitigate these risks and provide appropriate safeguards.

3. Highlight the potential benefits of using technology in the research, such as increased accessibility, efficiency, or novel data collection methods.

Provide information about the researcher's qualifications and expertise:

1. Describe the researchers' familiarity and competence related to utilizing the technology employed in the study.
2. If appropriate, provide information about any training or support provided to researchers or participants in using the technology.