The NUS-IRB hopes to keep our researchers updated on the latest ethical issues and problems occurring around the world. This will help us keep abreast of international best practices to ensure that research done in Singapore will be well accepted, scientifically and ethically. These news alerts will be issued as and when incidents are reported.

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1. Update on the CITI Program in NUS

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### Update on the Collaborative Institutional Training Initiative (CITI) Program in NUS

Since the implementation of the mandatory minimum training requirement for all NUS researchers in biological sciences and biomedical research on 1 April 2010, a total of **5018** learners have registered under “NUS” to complete the online training. Out of the 13 different courses available, **2897** learners, comprising of staff, researchers and students, completed the “Biomedical Research” course. **1360** learners have also earned their “CITI Good Clinical Practice Course” Completion Reports.

While the CITI online training is currently optional to the social scientists, it is encouraging to know that some **606** learners have completed the “Social, Behavioural and Educational Research (SBER)” course.

However, we have recently been alerted by the US CITI Helpdesk that an account name change for an NUS student was flagged as suspicious. An internal investigation revealed that this arose from a miscommunication between a student and her supervisor. As this arose from a misunderstanding, the student was counselled and no further disciplinary action was taken.

In light of this, we wish to remind all learners to use the CITI program appropriately and responsibly. By completing the “Integrity Assurance Statement” at the start of the online training, each learner is responsible to uphold his/her integrity during the completion of each course.

Please contact the IRB Secretariat at 6516 4311 or 6601 1310 or email irb@nus.edu.sg if you require further assistance when you encounter any problem or issue while completing the online training.

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### About NUS-IRB

NUS Institutional Review Board (NUS-IRB) was established on 1st September 2003. This Board (also referred to as the Research Ethics Committee in some countries) will review, approve and monitor the ethical aspects of all NUS research projects that involve human subjects and human tissues/cells/data. Its main objective is to protect the rights and welfare of human research subjects in research activities conducted by NUS staff, researchers and students.