



Policy Name: **Research Policy**

Effective Date: **04/2010**

Responsible Officer: **Corp. Compliance and Quality**

Policy Number:

Last Reviewed/Revised Date: **02/2016**

Board Approval Date:

**Policy Statement:**

PHS recognizes the value of clinical research in improving the quality and outcomes of clinical care for our patients. It is specifically interested in supporting research with tangible benefits for its programs and patients. PHS prioritizes investing in research partnerships that:

- Align with our Mission and Vision
- Address significant health care disparities faced by our patient populations
- Help bring needed services to patients that currently lack access to these services
- Reimburse patients for their investment of time and energy in the research endeavor
- Propose evidence-based interventions that are feasible within the context of day-to-day primary care and recognize our patients' needs as research subjects (i.e. language needs, literacy level, preferred methods of communication, etc.)
- Minimize disruption to our primary care services flow
- Assure regular progress updates and feedback of results to patients and staff for use in patient care
- Offer an opportunity for the development of a sustained research program within our organization that supports our services endeavor
- Support appropriately our organization's overhead expenses associated with meeting research needs

**Procedure:**

- Researcher requesting a relationship with Piedmont Health will contact the Program Director in the major area in which research is to take place to assess interest in participation.
  - Medical Director
  - COO
  - Dental Director
  - Pharmacy Director
  - SeniorCare Executive Director
- If there is interest in participation, the researcher will be sent a copy of **Appendix A** to inform them of the process and expectations.

- The Director will review the materials and send them to the Quality Board Committee for review. (Minimal material needed to consider research is an IRB, Summary of project including payment to PHS or the participants, staff involvement necessary for research and data needs.)
- The Committee will then approve or reject the research request.
- Before research activity begins, PHS must have:
  - A written contract and any payment for the activity, as previously agreed upon.
  - Completed documentation for on-site research staff (e.g. orientation, background/health clearances, HIPAA/drug-free signatures, etc.)

**References:**

N/A

**Policy Cross References:**

Dress Code Policy

Employee Health Policy

Confidentiality

Drug Free Workplace

**See Appendix A**