

Process for Issuing Approval Codes by Research Ethics Committees of Universities and Institutes

In order to standardize decisions of research ethics committees and the method for their reference in reports and articles, decisions of academic or institutional ethics committee on approving a project shall include an exclusive approval code issued for the project, and communicated to the research executor(s).

۱. Approval Code by Academic Research Ethics Committees

The exclusive approval code of an academic research ethics committee shall include:

۱. Initials of the university name, in English, as mentioned in the official website of the university;
۲. Initials "REC", standing for "Research Ethics Committee";
۳. Year of approval (Iranian Calendar);
۴. Identification number of projects approved by that committee in each year so far (for instance, if ۱۰۰ projects are considered and approved by the committee every year, approval codes would be numbered ۱ to ۱۰۰, regardless of the session when each project was approved);

Example: A project approved at the fifth session of the Research Ethics Committee of Shahid Beheshti University of Medical Sciences, in the Iranian Year ۱۳۹۴, being the ۴th project to be approved that year, shall receive the following code, regardless of the approval session number:

University Initials.Research Ethics Committee Initials.Approval Year.ID Number



IR.SBMU.REC.1394.40

۲. Approval Code by Institutional Research Ethics Committees

The exclusive approval code of an institutional research ethics committee shall be developed by adding the initials of the related institute's name, in English, after the abbreviated name of the related university.

Example: A project approved at the second session of the Research Ethics Committee of the Endocrine and Metabolism Research Center (EMRC), supervised by the Shahid Beheshti University of Medical Sciences, in the Iranian Year ۱۳۹۴, being the ۱۰th project to be approved that year, shall receive the following code, regardless of the approval session number:

University Initials.Institute Initials.Research Ethics Committee Initials.Approval Year.ID Number



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This guideline was approved by the Seventh Session of the National Committee for Ethics in Biomedical Research, on ۰ January ۲۰۱۰.
