

March 30, 2020

Northern California Institute for Research and Education's Open Letter to Research Sponsors and Collaborating Institutions

RE: NCIRE's Administrative Hold on Research due to COVID-19

Dear Sponsors and Collaborators,

In context of the novel Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic, the safety of our Veterans, San Francisco VA (SFVA) Staff, and Northern California Institute for Research and Education (NCIRE) Staff is our first priority.

The Office of Research and Development (ORD) in Washington, DC (consistent with the State of California and the City and County of San Francisco) has placed an **ADMINISTRATIVE HOLD**, effective 3/17/2020 on non-critical, in person human research subject interactions to help protect the safety and health of Veterans, San Francisco VA Staff, NCIRE Staff, and the community as well as to reduce the burden of the VA Health Care System. This administrative hold applies to all studies regardless of funding source. The pandemic and its impact on our local VA Hospital will be monitored closely until such time when it is safe to resume regular study activities.

We ask for your understanding as we navigate the COVID-19 outbreak and are grateful for your continued support and collaboration.

If you have any questions or require and further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Rebecca Rosales, MBA, CRA
Chief Executive Officer