

EXPERIMENTAL RESEARCH

POLICY

(Ref. 10 CCR 2505-10 8.608)

Metro Support Services, Inc. (MSS) shall ensure that no person is subjected to experimental research or hazardous treatment procedures if the person implicitly or expressly objects to such procedures.

MSS shall also ensure that procedures are in place to protect all individuals receiving services from any experimental research performed by or under the supervision of this agency. Those procedures shall, at a minimum, include the following:

- Adherence to ethical and design standards in the conduct of research;
- Review by the Human Rights Committee;
- Address the adequacy of the research design;
- Address the qualifications of the persons responsible for coordinating the project-;
- Address the benefits of the research in general;
- Address the benefits and risks to the participants;
- Address the benefits to the agency;
- Address the possible disruptive effects of the project on agency operations;
- Requires the obtainment of informed consent from participants, their guardians or authorized representatives. If applicable, such consent may be given only after consultation with
 - a. The interdisciplinary team (IDT);
 - b. A developmental disabilities professional not affiliated with MSS.
- State any potentially harmful effects that may occur in the course of the research activities and how to deal with them.

Unobtrusive research designs applied to services and supports or specific program activities normally provided and where there is no potential threat to an individual receiving services, are considered clinical evaluations and may be excluded from these protections at the discretion of the IDT.