

CONVERGE Training Modules Series: Overview and Demo

Candace Michele Evans, MA (she/they)
Doctoral Candidate, Department of Sociology
**Graduate Research Assistant, Natural Hazards
Center & CONVERGE**
University of Colorado Boulder



CONVERGE is a National Science Foundation-supported facility that seeks to advance interdisciplinary collaboration and coordination in hazards and disaster research

converge.colorado.edu/



CONVERGE TRAINING MODULES

Each CONVERGE Training Module features learning objectives, lesson plans, written content, and case study vignettes. The modules also include a list of publications for further reading as well as access to related standardized scales and measures, online resources, data sets, and other information. Each module is followed by a short multiple choice quiz. Those who receive a score of 80% or higher will receive a CONVERGE Training Module Certificate of Completion and one contact hour of general management training through the International Association of Emergency Managers (IAEM) certification program.

5,364
TRAINING MODULE
REGISTRANTS

5,956
SUCCESSFULLY
COMPLETED MODULES

Broader Ethical Considerations for Hazards and Disaster Researchers

This Training Module focuses on the broader ethical considerations for conducting research in a disaster setting.

Collecting and Sharing Perishable Data

This Training Module focuses on ways to collect and share perishable hazards and disaster data.

Conducting Emotionally Challenging Research

This Training Module describes emotionally challenging research and highlights the ways that recognizing researchers' emotions can lead to more ethical and methodologically sound research practices in the context of extreme events.

Cultural Competence in Hazards and Disaster Research

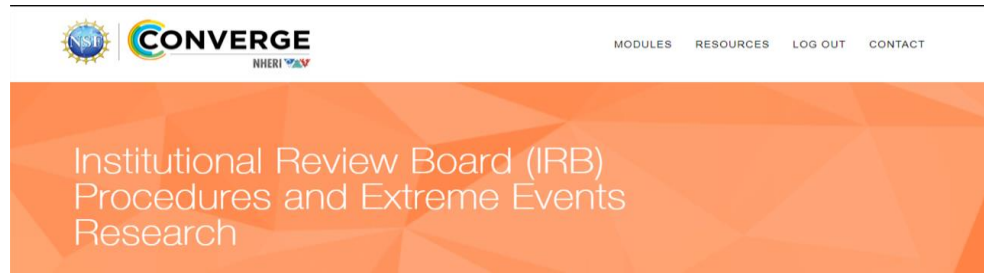
This Training Module focuses on culturally competent research and offers guidance on how hazards and disaster researchers can build cultural competence.

Disaster Mental Health

This Training Module focuses on mental health outcomes associated with disasters, with a particular emphasis on risk factors over time that make certain populations vulnerable to poor disaster mental health outcomes.

Overview

- Lesson 1: Background
- Lesson 2: IRB Review and Approval
- Lesson 3: IRB and Extreme Events Research
- Lesson 4: Future Directions



The screenshot shows the top navigation bar of the CONVERGE website. On the left, there are logos for NSF and CONVERGE (with NHRI and a small logo below it). On the right, there are links for MODULES, RESOURCES, LOG OUT, and CONTACT. Below the navigation bar is a large orange banner with the text "Institutional Review Board (IRB) Procedures and Extreme Events Research".

This Training Module introduces users to Institutional Review Board (IRB) procedures and offers guidance on how to work with the IRB to ensure ethical approaches to extreme events research.

[Learning Objectives](#)

[Module Content](#)

By the end of this module, you should be able to:

Lesson 1: Background

1. Recognize the historical underpinnings that led to the development of the Institutional Review Board (IRB) in the U.S.
2. Understand how the IRB is designed to safeguard participants and ensure ethical research practices.

Lesson 2: IRB Review and Approval

1. Know the steps required to apply for and receive IRB approval before conducting a research study.
2. Recognize strategies for submitting a successful IRB application.

Lesson 3: IRB and Extreme Events Research

1. Realize how the IRB process can strengthen ethical procedures for extreme events research.
2. Understand potential challenges of working with the IRB in the context of extreme events research and how to navigate those challenges.

History of the IRB

Institutional Review Board (IRB) Procedures and Extreme Events Research / Lesson 1: Background

LESSON PROGRESS

100% COMPLETE

The first institutionalized effort to regulate research involving human subjects arose after the Nuremberg Trials (1945-1946).

These trials were held in response to the human rights violations and inhumane research that was conducted by Nazi doctors on Jewish citizens and other marginalized groups in concentration camps during World War II. These research experiments, which were conducted without the consent of the persons involved, included various methods of severe torture and ultimately resulted in the death of many persons.



Module Home

PRE-MODULE ASSESSMENT

INTRODUCTION

LESSON 1: BACKGROUND

Overview of Institutional Review Boards

History of the IRB

Ethical Principles & Regulations in Conducting Research

Informed Consent & Confidentiality

Assessment of Risks and Benefits

Selection of Participants

Knowledge Check

LESSON 2: SEEKING IRB APPROVAL

Preparing an IRB Application

Submitting an IRB Application

Maintaining IRB Approval

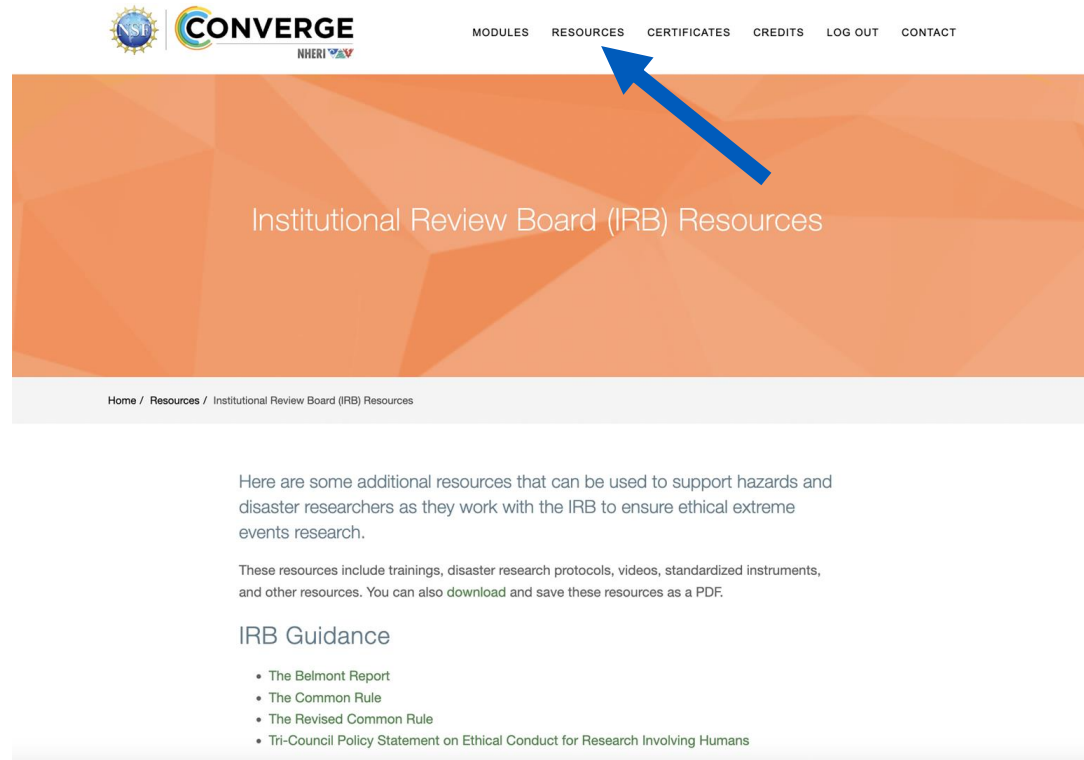
Key Content

- Background information on the history and function of the IRB in the US
- Strategies for preparing and submitting a successful IRB application
- Specific challenges that can arise in navigating IRB approval in the context of disaster research
- Suggestions for how to improve the IRB process for disaster research



Additional Resources

- Existing Measures
- Additional Readings
- Secondary Datasets
- Web-Based Tools



The screenshot shows the top navigation bar of the CONVERGE website. The logo for CONVERGE (with NSF and NHERI logos) is on the left. The navigation menu includes: MODULES, RESOURCES (highlighted with a blue arrow), CERTIFICATES, CREDITS, LOG OUT, and CONTACT. Below the navigation bar is a large orange banner with the text "Institutional Review Board (IRB) Resources". Below the banner is a breadcrumb trail: Home / Resources / Institutional Review Board (IRB) Resources. The main content area contains the following text:

Here are some additional resources that can be used to support hazards and disaster researchers as they work with the IRB to ensure ethical extreme events research.

These resources include trainings, disaster research protocols, videos, standardized instruments, and other resources. You can also download and save these resources as a PDF.

IRB Guidance

- The Belmont Report
- The Common Rule
- The Revised Common Rule
- Tri-Council Policy Statement on Ethical Conduct for Research Involving Humans

Annotated Bibliographies



CONVERGE Institutional Review Board Annotated Bibliography

This annotated bibliography includes resources focused on Institutional Review Board (IRB) procedures for hazards and disaster research. This bibliography is meant to support those interested in learning more about how to navigate the IRB process and to complement the [CONVERGE Institutional Review Board and Extreme Events Research Training Module](#). These references were compiled through searching Web of Science and Google Scholar databases. If you identify missing references, please send them to converge@colorado.edu, and we will add them to the list.

Citation

Aarons, D. (2018). Research in epidemic and emergency situations: A model for collaboration and expediting ethics review in two Caribbean countries. *Developing World Bioethics*, 18(4), 375–384. <https://doi.org/10.1111/dewb.12157>

Abstract

Various forms of research are essential in emergency, disaster and disease outbreak situations, but challenges exist including the long length of time it takes to get research proposals approved. Consequently, it would be very advantageous to have an acceptable model for efficient coordination and communication between and among research ethics committees/IRBs and ministries of health, and templates for expediting (done with speed and efficiency) ethical review of research proposals in emergency and epidemic situations to be used across the Caribbean and in other low and middle income countries. This project involved a literature search and the interviewing of ministry of health officials, public health practitioners, and research ethics committee/IRB members in Jamaica and St. Lucia, to obtain suggestions for the best model for efficient coordination and communication between research ethics committees (RECs), and developed a template for expediting review of research protocols in epidemic and emergency conditions.

Citation

Aarons, D. (1995). Research ethics. *West Indian Medical Journal*, 44(4), 115-118.

Abstract

This article reviews the ethical requirements for research. The ethics of human experimentation are informed by the basic principles of beneficence, justice and respect for persons. The principle of beneficence requires that a research

Quiz

- Randomly generated 10- question quiz
- 80% or higher receive Certificate of Completion

1. QUESTION

To help establish competency in the review of disaster research, IRB members should receive basic training on _____.

- disaster agents (natural, technological, and terrorism)
- data collection
- international contexts
- emergency response research



1 Contact Hour of General Management Training



converge.colorado.edu/training-modules



[REGISTER](#) [LOG IN](#) [CONTACT](#)

CONVERGE Training Modules

Need an account? [Create an account.](#)

Username or Email

rachel.adams-1@colorado.edu

Password

I'm not a robot



reCAPTCHA

[Privacy](#) - [Terms](#)

LOG IN

[Forgot Password?](#)

