

**STANFORD UNIVERSITY**  
Research Compliance Office  
3000 El Camino Real  
Five Palo Alto Square, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Palo Alto, CA 94306

Internal MC: 5579



September 10, 2019

Dear Researchers,

As you may already know, the NIH released a notice on changes to [NIH Requirements Regarding Proposed Human Fetal Tissue Research](#) that is supported by the NIH and involves the proposed use of human fetal tissue (HFT) obtained from elective abortions in extramural applications for grants, cooperative agreements and R&D contracts. The changes outlined in this notice will apply to competitive applications for grants and cooperative agreements submitted for due dates on or after September 25, 2019 and R&D contract proposals submitted to solicitations issued after September 25, 2019. The notice states that:

*NIH is implementing requirements regarding the documentation of the use of HFT in research, as NIH does with other research materials and models, to ensure that it is utilized for research only when scientifically justifiable, and in the least amount possible to achieve the scientific outcomes. NIH will require applicants and contract offerors to provide detailed information addressing the use of HFT in applications/proposals and reports. These requirements are designed to enable NIH to assess whether extramural research applicants/contract offerors and recipients/awardees/contractors are adequately assuring compliance with all applicable laws and HHS/NIH policies concerning the acquisition and use of HFT obtained from elective abortion.*

Additional details about the changes to the NIH application process when requesting the use of HFT can be found in the [notice](#). NIH has also posted [Clarifying Competing Application Instructions](#) and [FAQs](#) regarding proposed HFT research.

Your research has been identified as possibly using human fetal tissue. If you are no longer using human fetal tissue, please update your protocol application to reflect this at your next eProtocol event. Otherwise, no additional action is required at this time. Please let us know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Anastasia Doherty in black ink.

Anastasia Doherty  
HRPP Associate Director

Handwritten signature of Cheryle Aird in black ink.

Cheryle Aird  
APLAC Associate Director

cc: SCRO/IRB Panel  
APLAC Panel  
Kathy McClelland  
Kathleen Thompson