



# Conducting Multisite Research: Introduction to Virginia Tech and Carilion Clinic Research Collaborations

Barbara DeCausey, MPH, MBA, CIP, Director  
Human Research Protection Program

September 12, 2024



RESEARCH AND INNOVATION  
SCHOLARLY INTEGRITY AND  
RESEARCH COMPLIANCE  
VIRGINIA TECH.

# Topics

- Requirements for Virginia Tech Researchers
- Overview of the Reliance and Review Process
- Process for Accessing Carilion Clinic Patients and Data

# Requirements for Virginia Tech Researchers

- Virginia Tech researchers must complete the required human subjects training
  - CITI Basic Biomedical or Basic Social Behavioral course (not refresher)
  - Good Clinical Practice (GCP, if biomedical or clinical research or if funded by NIH)
- Current CV on file (uploaded in protocol management)
- Conflict of Interest Disclosure – required for each project
- Researchers with Dual Roles
  - Must designate a role/institution
  - Contact HRPP at [irb@vt.edu](mailto:irb@vt.edu) to verify training requirements

# Overview of the Reliance and Review Process

- Virginia Tech Initiated Research
  - Submission should include Carilion Clinic as a collaborating institution and include all researchers
    - Contact information
    - Role in the project
  - Upon receipt of submission, HRPP will contact Carilion Clinic HRPO to establish a reliance agreement
    - Carilion Clinic researchers should follow the HRPO submission process
  - **The review arrangements must be documented by all participating research sites**

# Overview of the Reliance and Review Process (continued)

- Once the reliance agreement has been established:
  - HRPP will issue an approval memo when the IRB has approved
  - Carilion Clinic HRPO will issue a memo authorizing the reliance agreement
  - Research may begin
- Research plans that include accessing Carilion Clinic patients or data
  - A Carilion Clinic researcher must be a collaborator
  - Contact HRPP at [irb@vt.edu](mailto:irb@vt.edu) before submitting for review to determine the reviewing IRB
    - A reliance agreement is still needed

# Process for Accessing Carilion Clinic Patients or Data

- Step 1: Contact PRDP at [prdp@vt.edu](mailto:prdp@vt.edu) to assist with setting up your research
- Step 2: Make sure your research align's with their mission – Improve the health of the communities we serve
- Step 3: Connect with a Carilion Clinic collaborator
  - A “sponsor” is required: PRDP can help identify one if needed
- Step 4: Determine the minimum amount of data needed to answer your research question
- Step 5: PRDP and Carilion Clinic’s Health Analytic Research Team will coordinate to guide researchers through the remainder of the process

# Requesting Feedback

We want to hear from you!

Have you participated in collaborative research with Carilion in the past?

Reach out and let us know what has gone well

- What have you found useful that we can incorporate into our standard processes?

Reach out and let us know where we can improve

- What roadblocks have you run into?
- How did these roadblocks impact your research?
- Recommendations for changes? What would you like to see in the future?

[prdp@vt.edu](mailto:prdp@vt.edu)

(540) 231-9366



RESEARCH AND INNOVATION  
**SCHOLARLY INTEGRITY AND  
RESEARCH COMPLIANCE**  
VIRGINIA TECH®