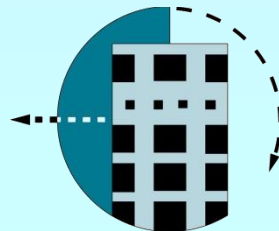


A tough nut to crack:

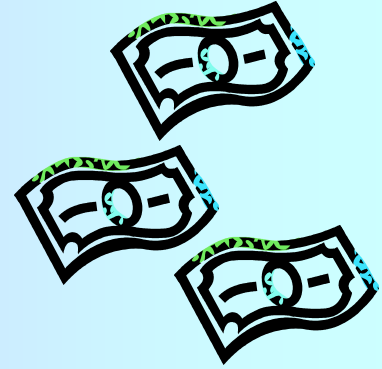
Patient Health Literacy and the Consent Process

Paula G. Raimondo, MLS, AHIP
10 October 2007

Health Sciences & Human Services Library
University of Maryland, Baltimore

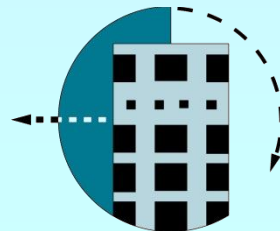


UMB Awards



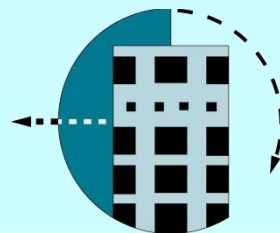
- \$380.2 million in grants and contracts for FY 2006

www.umaryland.edu/institutionalresearch/research



Institutional Review Board

- Since 2004
- Non-scientist
- Attend monthly meetings of
Committee #2
- Closely review consent forms



Informed Consent

Details of research

Risks / discomforts

Benefits to subjects
or others

Available
alternatives

Privacy and
confidentiality

Compensation

Contact information

Voluntary
participation

PROBLEM CONSENT FORM

- Sections copied and pasted from research protocol
- Multiple authors
- Medical jargon
- Complex information



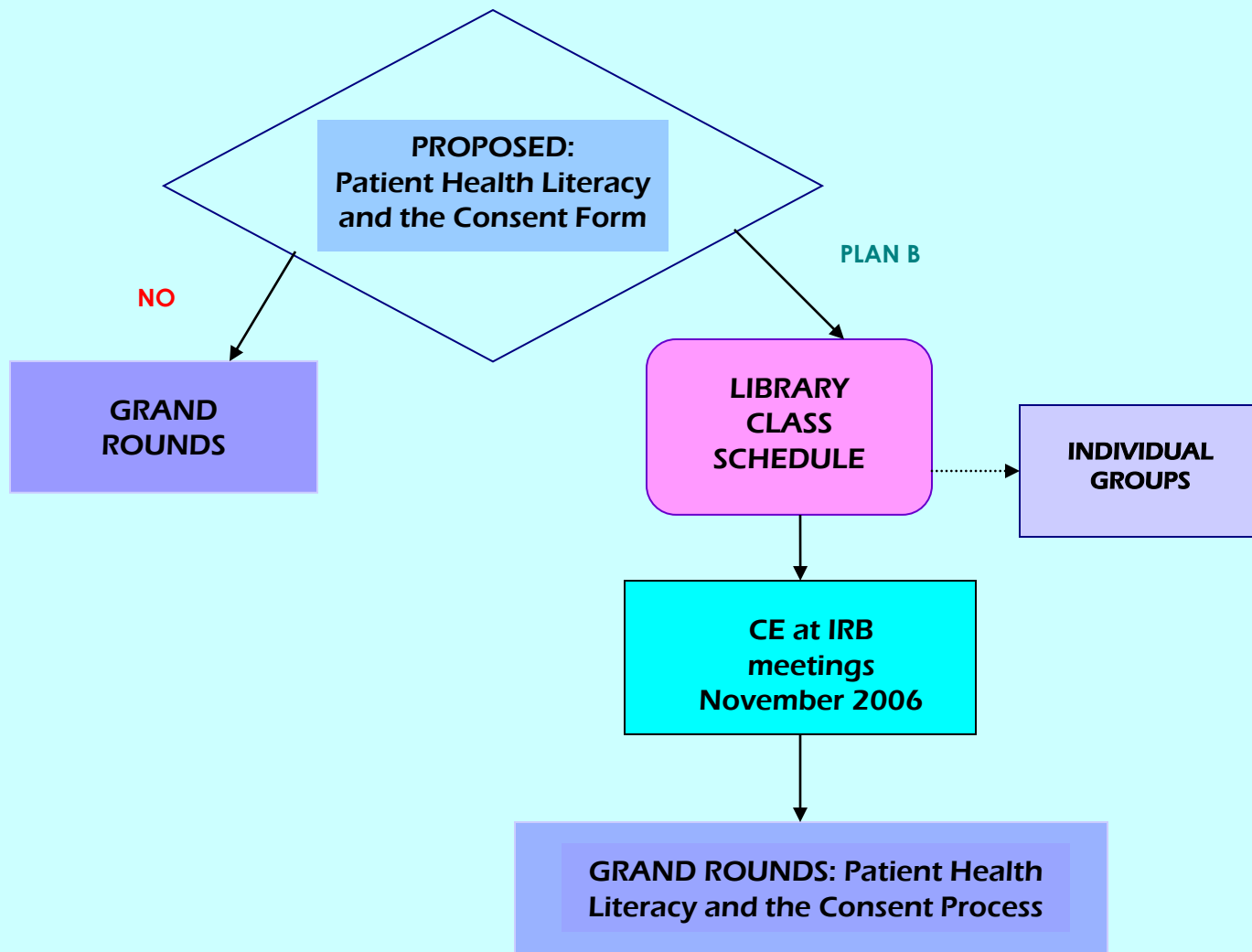
CONSENT FORM REQUIREMENTS

- Spelling and grammar: YES
- Simplify to grade reading level: YES (7th grade)
- Limited to number of pages: NO



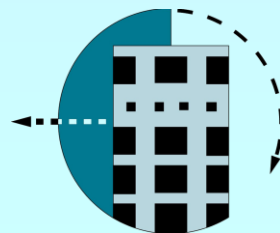
GOAL

Make the consent process
less stressful for patients
by helping research staff
create clearly written
consent forms



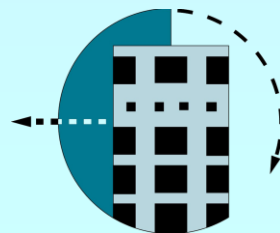
RESULTS

- **Course addresses entire consent process**
- **Reviewers pay attention to consent form language**
- **HRPO consults**
 - **New system**
 - **HIPAA document**
 - **Drug information**
- **Consultant on Single Gene Disorders Resources project**

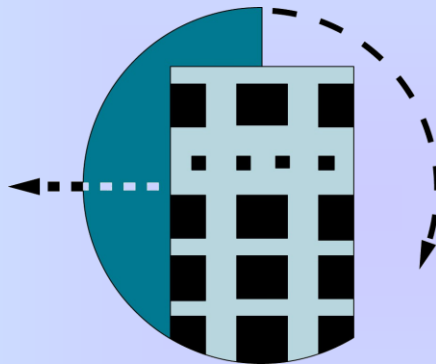


FUTURE

- Survey current IRB members to learn whether they have used any of what was covered in the health literacy sessions.
- Survey attendees of upcoming sessions.



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