

The MRO program allows new and established clinical researchers to navigate the process of finding clinical research collaborators, conducting cross-institutional research and receiving medical oversight for some tests and procedures that require a credentialed provider.

Who will require or is likely to request Medical Research Officer (MRO) services?

- Non-MD researchers (such as PhD scientists and RNs) without MD physicians on the protocol
- Investigators who are credentialed at their home institutions, but NOT credentialed at Massachusetts General Hospital (MGH), who wish to expand their study to MGH, in order to increase recruitment or utilize resources specific to the CRC at MGH
- Investigators credentialed at MGH with limited resources/time to see all or any of their research patients at the CRC for H&Ps, admission and discharge notes, and for any necessary medical management: MRO may provide greater oversight and structure for coverage

For investigators not medically credentialed at MGH:

The MRO at the MGH CRC (with the CRC nurse practitioners) can provide medical oversight for standard research tests and procedures such as:

- **'Minimal risk' blood draw** – A collection of blood up to 200 cc drawn at one time by venipuncture from healthy, non-pregnant adults who weigh at least 110 pounds. For healthy children, the volume of blood collection by venipuncture, fingerstick or heelstick will be determined based on the age and weight of the child.
- **Routine questionnaires**- Typical clinical/research instruments and ones where subject answers are unlikely to result in the need for immediate medical attention.

For MGH-credentialed investigators:

The MRO at the MGH CRC (with the CRC nurse practitioners) can provide medical oversight for your study visits given travel and other coverage needs.

Why should you meet with the MRO before protocol development/grant submission?

The MRO (with the CRC nurse practitioners) can:

- Provide guidance regarding grant/protocol development and help with budgeting 'above standard' expenses
- Review protocol for need for MRO support
 - Determine whether intensity/complexity is within the scope of the MRO role
 - Work with PI and protocol RN to develop protocol/protocol specific orders; facilitate protocol implementation
 - As and when necessary establish a decision tree for management of adverse events and medical emergencies

Contacting the MRO at MGH:

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