

**From:** OC GCP Questions  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** FDA regulated clinical trials  
**Date:** Thursday, September 07, 2017 11:27:00 AM

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Good morning –

If the study is FDA-regulated and also federally conducted or supported/funded, then the regulations at 21 CFR (FDA) and 45 CFR 46 both apply. When both sets of regulations apply to a study, then both sets of regulations must be followed. In situations where the regulations differ, the more stringent regulations apply.

The "Common Rule" refers to the Department of Health and Human Services' (DHHS') regulations that pertain to the institutional review and protection of human subjects who participate in federally funded or federally sponsored studies.

Again The DHHS regulations are found in 45 CFR 46 (OHRP). If a federally funded or federally sponsored study involves an FDA-regulated product, then both sets of regulations would apply.

While this may seem confusing, the regulations at 45 CFR 46 and FDA's regulations for informed consent and IRBs are fairly congruent, with only a few differences, centered primarily on the regulations' applicability. For example: -FDA is responsible for overseeing research involving FDA regulated products, whereas the HHS regulations cover biomedical, behavioral, and social research.

You may also contact the Office for Human Research Protections (OHRP)

Telephone: (866) 447-4777

Telephone: (240) 453-6900

E-mail: [OHRP@hhs.gov](mailto:OHRP@hhs.gov)

Kind regards,

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This communication does not constitute a written advisory opinion under 21 CFR 10.85, but rather is an informal communication under 21 CFR 10.85(k) which represents the best judgment of the employee providing it. This information does not necessarily represent the formal position of FDA, and does not bind or otherwise obligate or commit the agency to the views expressed.

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 07, 2017 9:16 AM  
**To:** OC GCP Questions  
**Subject:** FDA regulated clinical trials

My understanding is that FDA regulated clinical trials are not subject to the Common Rule 45 CFR 46 because FDA rules trump the Common Rule. However, could funding change this? For instance, if a FDA regulated trial is federally funded, would it then be subject to the Common Rule?

Thanks

