# Preparing for Disaster Research
*IRB Preparedness and Regulatory Guidance*



## Who We Are

The NIH Disaster Research Response (DR2) Program is the national framework for research on the medical and public health aspects of disasters and public health emergencies.

The program is a collaborative effort between NIH's National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS) and the National Library of Medicine (NLM).

## History

For more than 30 years, NIEHS has participated in national response and research efforts. The DR2 Program was formed to improve access to data collection tools, reduce administrative and regulatory barriers, and create a national network for disaster research coordination.

Resources provided by the DR2 Program empower disaster and public health researchers to carry out timely data collection during, and in the immediate aftermath of, disasters.



## What We Do

### Needs Assessment

Our goal is to increase IRB preparedness to review disaster-related protocols. Our team will help assess your organization's disaster research needs to improve IRB preparedness and processes for reviewing disaster-related research. This includes enhancing knowledge of best practices for disaster researchers to protect the rights and welfare of study participants.

### Training

Using our disaster-related tools and resources, we will train your IRB, regulatory staff, and PIs to incorporate disaster-related review criteria in the assessment of disaster research protocols.



**Timely research is critical following disasters. Is your IRB prepared?**

**For institutional review boards and disaster researchers, we provide:**

- **Disaster expertise**
- **Curriculum-based training**
- **Regulatory guidance**

For more information about NIEHS, visit https://dr2.nlm.nih.gov.

---