Who will be affected by ProSPECT?

- All investigators and research staff submitting new research protocols involving human subjects (Full Board, Expedited, and Exempt) on or after June 29, 2011
- All investigators and research staff submitting new research protocols that require a Not Human Subject Determination on or after June 29, 2011
- All investigators and research staff who have active human research protocols
- All IRB Members
- ACOS/R&D and Deputy ACOS/R&D
- Representatives from Radiation Safety Committee and Institutional Biosafety Committee
- Research Office Staff
- Research Compliance Officer

What types of submissions will need to be entered into ProSPECT?

- New studies (Full Board, Expedited, Exempt, and Not Human Subjects Research)
- Continuing Review Submissions/Study Closures
- Amendments
- Reportable Events (including Adverse Events, Unanticipated Problems, Suspensions/Terminations, Non-Compliance, DSMB/DMC Reports, Protocol Exceptions, Dual Enrollment Requests, Administrative Hold, and Sponsor Correspondence)

Can any studies remain in paper format?

- Studies that will be completed in 2011 and there are no planned modifications between now and closure can remain in paper
- Studies in data analysis only and will be closed by December 2012 can remain in paper

All other studies must be converted to an electronic submission.

It is mandatory that all studies for which IRB approval will expire during or after September 2011 submit an electronic continuing review. Investigators with studies expiring in September have already received a notice from the IRB Office. Notices will also be sent to Investigators with studies expiring during October 2011 – December 2011.
How do you convert active non-exempt, human research protocols to an electronic submission?

Before an electronic continuing review, amendment, or reportable event can be submitted using ProSPECT, the study must undergo a “paper conversion” process and the “paper conversion” must be accepted by the IRB prior to any further submissions. You may elect to submit the paper conversion yourself or the Research Office is providing a service to help investigators transition their paper studies to ProSPECT. This service will be available for the next year in order to make all of the currently approved IRB studies electronic. This service will be available beginning June 1, 2011. If you are interested in using this service please contact Kathy Parks kathleen.parks@va.gov or Jessica Viglione Jessica.Viglione@va.gov.

Is ProSPECT Training being offered?

There are several training dates and types of training available for the ProSPECT system. Please contact Barbara Fink (Barbara.Fink@va.gov) for additional information about training.

How do you become a ProSPECT user?

You must register. Please navigate to the following site to begin the registration process. http://vhapthirbprod/vairbprod

Once you receive your username and password you will need to log back into the site, update your password and complete your Researcher Profile. Please note it could take up to one week to receive your username and password.

Can ProSPECT be accessed from outside VAPHS?

No. At this time, you can only access the site from a VA computer or VPN using government issued equipment.

If you currently do not have a VA computer account, please email Shannon Reichel at Shannon.Reichel@va.gov, and she will send you the required forms to request access. Please allow up to 1 week to receive access. Again, please keep in mind that you cannot access ProSPECT from outside the VA firewall.

Who should you contact for further information?

Please contact the IRB Office staff or Barbara Fink for more information, or email the ProSPECT Support Team at VHAPTHProSPECTSupport@va.gov.