

Classroom Observations with Media Recording: Best Practices for Mitigating Risks

Recording observations in a classroom presents unique concerns for how to evaluate and handle risks to subjects. This suggestion guideline is a tool to help investigators determine potential risks involved when recording classroom observations, and corresponding measures to mitigate those risks.

CPHS suggests using the safest strategy possible, especially for higher risk uses. For example, if the recording will be used for commercial use, investigators should consider positioning the media-recording device in a way that only captures consenting subjects, and masks non-subjects who may have been accidentally captured by the media. If choosing to use a less safe suggestion for a high-risk use, justification should be provided in the corresponding protocol submission. The distinctions in the following flowcharts should help researchers and Committee members in writing or reviewing a protocol’s Risks section.



