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## **Copernicus Group IRB Renews Accreditation with AAHRPP**

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Research Triangle Park, N.C. - Copernicus Group IRB (CGIRB), a national leader in providing independent human research protection services to the research community, proudly announces its Reaccreditation by the Association for the Accreditation of Human Research Protection Programs (AAHRPP). CGIRB first achieved Full AAHRPP accreditation in 2004.

Together with investigators, sponsors and federal regulators, CGIRB has worked to make certain appropriate safeguards are provided to study participants taking part in research through initial and ongoing ethical review of study information. Now located in Research Triangle Park, CGIRB provides service to a wide variety of research groups ranging from single investigators to large sponsored trials. CGIRB's growing list of users often point to their appreciation of the CGIRB Board's thoughtful, thorough review of protocols, their positive interactions with knowledgeable support staff members, and the evident attention to continued process improvement as reasons why they have become repeat clients.

"Copernicus Group has dedicated countless hours of professional resources to achieving and maintaining full AAHRPP accreditation," said Sharon Hill Price, Founder and CEO of CGIRB. "Our re-accreditation validates our efforts to provide a program that fully addresses human subject protection and complies with applicable federal regulations. It is our hope that our continuing commitment to this voluntary accreditation process will assist to increase the public's understanding of the role of all human research protection programs and ultimately lead to an increased level of public trust in the clinical research enterprise."

Just as in the initial accreditation process, AAHRPP's peer review process required a program self-assessment and the demonstrated ability of a program to meet strict practice standards based on existing regulations. For more information on this voluntary initiative, visit [www.aahrpp.org](http://www.aahrpp.org).

### **About Copernicus Group IRB**

Copernicus Group IRB, established in July, 1996, is an independent institutional review board (IRB or "Board") composed of highly qualified individuals dedicated to providing the ethical review of research to ensure the protection of the rights and welfare of research study participants. The

Board reviews research protocols, investigators, and subject information and consent forms to ensure compliance with federal regulations and consideration of local concerns. CGIRB operates in compliance with Federal Regulations set forth in 21CFR, 45 CFR and ICH/GCP Guidelines and achieved full AAHRPP re-accreditation in 2007. For more information, visit [www.cgirb.com](http://www.cgirb.com).

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