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**University of British  
Columbia  
Office of Research  
Ethics**

# ***Memo***

**To:** The Research Community  
**From:** Laurel Evans  
**CC:**  
**Date:** June 12, 2009  
**Re:** Change in the Certificates of Approval for the Clinical Research Ethics Board

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Effective May 4, 2009 the Clinical Research Ethics Board discontinued its practice of inserting the CREB Chair(s) signatures on Approval Certificates.

This was done in order to enhance security and in an effort to forestall a possible misuse of the signatures. There is an electronic paper trail which is maintained by the UBC on-line system, which effectively constitutes an “electronic signature” for proof that the approval was granted by the appropriate person under the circumstances noted on the certificate.

In view of the combined security features of the RISE system and UBC IT security policies, we are confident that our current approval process meets all regulatory requirements, including 21CFR part 11.

Please pass this information on to your study sponsors if required.

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