

#### ROMEO Research Portal User Guide

Nova Scotia Health Authority Research Ethics Board

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#### Accessing the Researcher's Portal

The Researcher's Portal is available through the Login at the following URL: <a href="http://nsha-iwk.researchservicesoffice.com/Romeo.Researcher/Login.aspx">http://nsha-iwk.researchservicesoffice.com/Romeo.Researcher/Login.aspx</a>

If you already have an account, login with your primary email address and password.



Many profiles already exist in Romeo as some were created before the existence of the Portal when only the REB used Romeo.

If you are a first time user of the Researcher's Portal, please contact the REB Office ResearchEthics@nshealth.ca to see if you already have a user profile in the system.





#### Researcher's Home Page

You are now in the Researcher's Home Page! To access the REB application forms, click on "APPLY NEW"



All files in which your role is Principal Investigator (PI) will be under the heading "Role: Principal Investigator."

All files in which your role is anything other than the PI (coordinator, assistant, etc.) will be under the heading "Role: Project Team Member."





### Interventional Study or Non-Interventional Study?

All research projects being conducted at Nova Scotia Health and involving human participants, human biological materials (human embryos, fetuses, fetal tissue, reproductive materials, stem cells), Nova Scotia Health patients, staff, resources or data are reviewed by the NS Health REB before the research begins. This applies to materials derived from living and deceased individuals.

Please read the descriptions below and to ensure you select the appropriate ethics application form for your research submission.

Because Romeo is a shared database with the IWK, you will see IWK application forms too.

To submit to the Nova Scotia Health REB ONLY select from NS Health options.

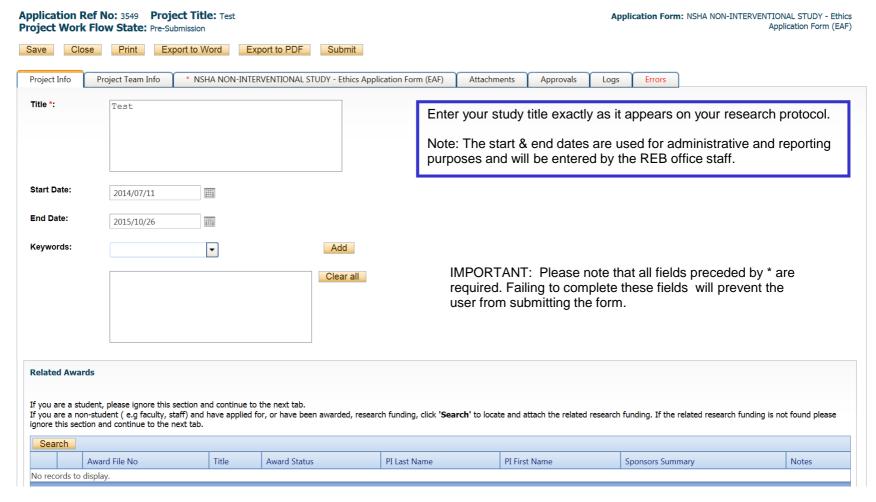
#### NSHA - Certifications (Human Ethics)

Application Name	Description	Status
Nova Scotia Health INTERVENTIONAL STUDY - Ethics Application Form (EAF)	Interventional Study (or Clinical Trial): A clinical study in which participants are assigned to receive one or more interventions (or no intervention) so that researchers can evaluate the effects of the interventions on biomedical or health-related outcomes. The assignments are determined by the study protocol. Participants may receive diagnostic, therapeutic, or other types of interventions. — clinicaltrials.gov If your study meets the requirements of an interventional study as per the definition above, complete this form. If your study does not meet the definition of an interventional study, complete the Ethics Application Form for Non-Interventional Studies.	Open
Nova Scotia Health NON-INTERVENTIONAL STUDY - Ethics Application Form (EAF)	Complete this form if your study is NOT a clinical trial. If your study is a clinical trial, complete the clinical trials EAF form.	Open





### Project Info Tab





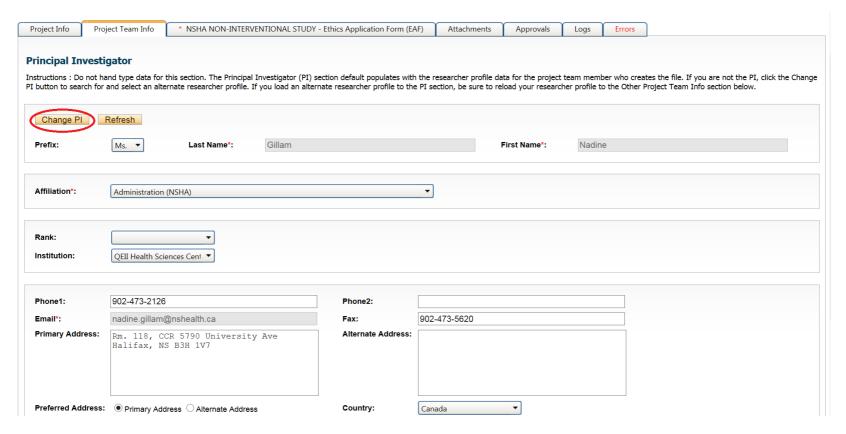


### Project Team Info Tab / Changing the Pl

The applicant automatically defaults to the role of Principal Investigator (PI) on the application.

If you are not the PI of the study, you may transfer the PI Role to another researcher by clicking the "Change PI" button.

Important: DO NOT change PI's "Last Name" and "First Name" manually - always use "Change PI" feature and search by name.



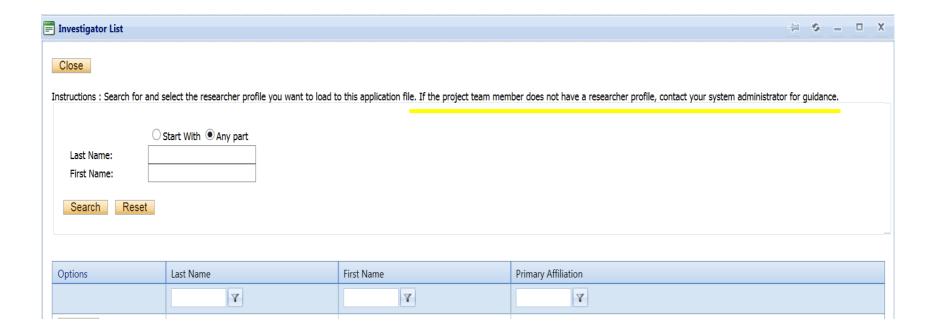




### Changing the PI cont'd

Once you click "Change PI", you can search the Investigator List for the name of the person to be assigned as PI.

The list can be searched in a variety of ways, i.e. type the last name of the person in the "Last Name" field, or use the filter to select search criteria such as "Start With" or "Any part."



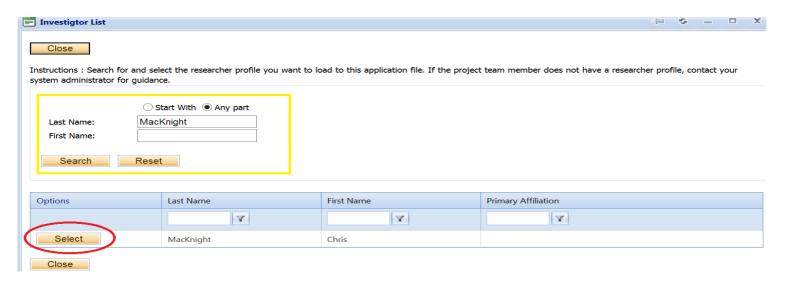




#### Changing the PI cont'd

Once you've identified your PI - click on "select." Project Team Info will automatically be updated with PI's information.

The "Submit" button is only visible to the PI; the PI is the only person who can submit the application once it has been completed.



If you are unable to identify the person you are looking for from the investigators list, please contact <a href="ResearchEthics@nshealth.ca">ResearchEthics@nshealth.ca</a>

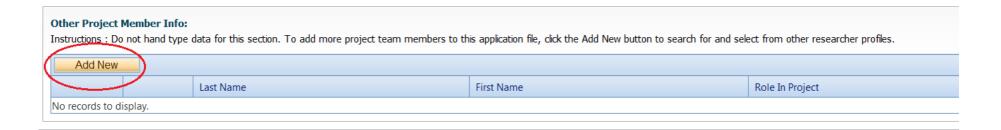
Important: Now that the PI role has been updated, the applicant must be added as a project team member. This must be done before you close the application. Failing to do so will result in you losing access to the application form once you exit the application form.





### **Adding Other Team Members**

- From the Project Team Info tab, scroll down to "Other Project Member Info" and click "Add New"
- Repeat the search process, this time assigning yourself to the team and selecting your role in the study from the drop down menu under "Role In Project" data field.
- Continue to project add team members by clicking "Add New."



Do not hand type data for this section. Always use "Search Profiles." If the person you are looking for is not in the list, please contact ResearchEthics@nshealth.ca





## Completing the Ethics Application Forms (EAF)

The Ethics Application Form(s) have several sub-tabs all of which contain required questions. If you are unsure how to answer a question, try clicking on additional information as seen in the screenshot below!

Project Info Project Team Info * NSHA N	ion-interventional study - et	hics Application Form (EAF)	Attachments Approvals	Logs Errors	
* Principal Investigator Attestation/Commitments	* Administrative Information	* Research Summary	* Research Protocol Information	* Compensation / Confl	ict of Interest
* Participant Identification and Informed Consent	* Privacy and Confidentiality	* Other Ethical Issues			
2.1) Pl's Institutional Affiliation(s)  Please list primary affiliation E.g. NSHA/IWK/DAL					
		Tip! ROMEO do	oes not have an automa	itic save	
0		feature. Users a	are encouraged to hit th		
1 2.2) PI'S NSHA Zone -Select-		after completing	g each tab.		
-Gelecti-					
1 2.3) * Is this research interdisciplinary (eg. Rese	earch is considered interdisciplinar	y if it is involving investigator	rs/sub-investigators from two or more	departments, divisions, pro	ograms or services)?
○ Yes ○ No					
_					
1 2.4) * Is this research:					
Investigator Driven (Sponsored)     Industry Driven (Sponsored)					
, , , , ,					
1 2.5) * If Investigator driven, is it led:					
○ Locally ○ Externally					
N/A (Industry Driven)					





#### **Attachments**

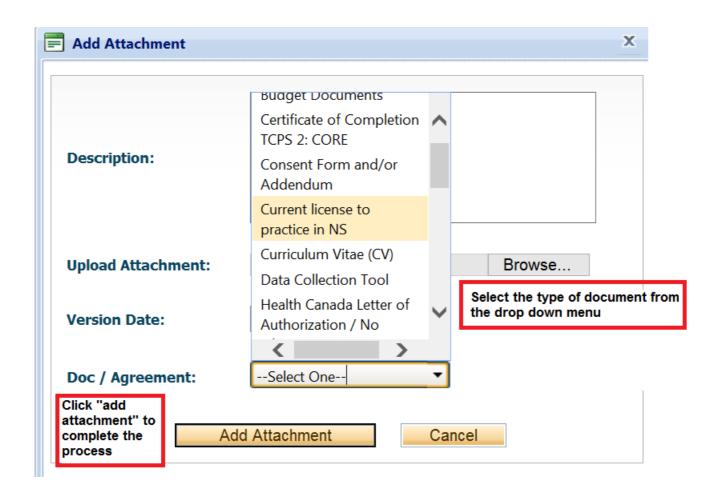
You should attach any relevant document(s) on the "Attachments Tab." Users may upload multiple attachments, provided that each is no larger than 5MB. Attachments may be word files, spreadsheets, jpeg files, pdfs, etc.

n:	Add Attachment	x
t Da	Description:	Include a brief description of the document (e.g. Mood Questionnaire, Optional Sub-Study ICF, etc.) If your document has a version number, please list it in this box.
k	Upload Attachment:	Browse Click "browse" to select the document from your computer
	Version Date:	Enter the date as it appears on your document. If your document has no date, leave this blank.
st	Doc / Agreement:	Select One Doc / Agreement - see next slide
-1	Ac	d Attachment Cancel





#### Attachments cont'd

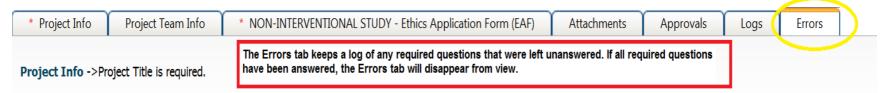








#### **Errors Tab**



NON-INTERVENTIONAL STUDY - Ethics Application Form (EAF) -> Administrative Information :2.1 Is this a locally-initiated investigator-driven research study (e.g. the PI is the stud required.

**NON-INTERVENTIONAL STUDY - Ethics Application Form (EAF) ->** Administrative Information :2.3 Is the PI a trainee (e.g. student, resident, fellow)? A supervising investigator is re PI is a trainee and/or does not have a DHA/IWK affiliation. is required.

NON-INTERVENTIONAL STUDY - Ethics Application Form (EAF) -> Administrative Information :2.4 Has funding been obtained for this study? is required.

NON-INTERVENTIONAL STUDY - Ethics Application Form (EAF) -> Administrative Information :2.7 What does this study involve? (select all that apply) is required.

**NON-INTERVENTIONAL STUDY - Ethics Application Form (EAF) ->** Administrative Information :2.8 Has this study been reviewed by a committee, department, or division of a participal institution? is required.

**NON-INTERVENTIONAL STUDY - Ethics Application Form (EAF) ->** Administrative Information :2.9 Has this study been reviewed externally (e.g. by funding agencies or other acader institutions/organizations)? is required.

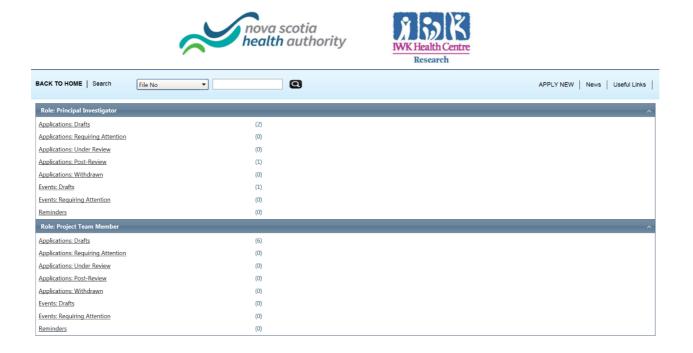




#### Save and Continue...

At any point in the process, you may "Save and Close" the application and complete it at a later date. The information entered will be saved and can be accessed again through the Researcher's home page under "Applications: Drafts".

Important: Do not close that application by clicking the X at the top of your browser, doing so will result in the application being "locked" preventing other team members from accessing it.



ROMEO has no automatic save feature! But it does have a time out feature so save often!





# Submitting the Application

- Once the PI and team members are added to the project, they will be able to view and edit the application.
- The PI is the only person who can submit the application, no other team member can do this on their behalf.
- If applicable, the team member responsible for completing the application should notify the PI when the application is ready to be reviewed and submitted.
- Once the application has been submitted, the PI will receive an email confirming the receipt of the application – any team member associated with the application will be copied on the correspondence.





#### **Applications Under Review**

Once the PI has submitted the application, an automated email confirming the receipt of the application will be sent to all team members associated with the application.

Once an application has been submitted you are not able to edit it; although you may view it under the quick link, "Applications - Under Review".









# Work Flow State of Applications Under Review

Check the status of your application(s) under review under the "Work Flow State" column.

#### ORS - Office of Research Services

	File No	Project Title	Principal Investigator	Application Type	Status Snapshot	Workflow Message
	Y	Y	Y	All ▼	Y	
View Clone	100239	Test File	Romeo Testing (District 9: Capital District Health Authority)	CLINICAL TRIAL - Ethics Approval Submission (EAS) Form (Certification\Human Ethics)	Project Status: Active Workflow Status: ORS Review	Test application being submitted for review [Acti [See more, inside under Logs section]





### **Applications Requiring Revisions**

If the Board requires any revisions, the application will be returned to the research team. The PI and Coordinator(s) will receive notification by email that the file is being returned for clarifications/revisions.

At this stage, the application may be edited by clicking on the link: "Applications – Requiring Attention." If you are making the revisions on behalf of the PI, you will need to notify them when the revisions are complete so they may re-submit the application.







### **Approved Applications**

Once the application has been approved, the PI, Research Coordinator and Supervising Investigator (where applicable) will receive an automatic approval email.

A formal approval letter will be sent via email. After the application has been approved, it can no longer be modified. It can be viewed under "Applications -Post Review."

All modifications will need to be requested by submitting the appropriate Event Form.

	nova scotia health authority	IWK Health Centre Research	
BACK TO HOME   Search File No	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •		APPLY NEW   News   Useful Links
Role: Principal Investigator			^
Applications: Drafts	(2)		
Applications: Requiring Attention	(0)		
Applications: Under Review	(0)		
Applications: Post-Review	(1)		
Applications: Withdrawn	(0)		
Events: Drafts	(1)		
Events: Requiring Attention	(0)		
Reminders	(0)		
Role: Project Team Member			^
Applications: Drafts	(6)		
Applications: Requiring Attention	(0)		
Applications: Under Review	(0)		
Applications: Post-Review	(0)		
Applications: Withdrawn	(0)		
Events: Drafts	(0)		
Events: Requiring Attention	(0)		
Reminders	(0)		





#### Logs Tab - Workflow Logs

- The Logs tab is a useful tool that shows the history of the application. Text in blue font represents most recent updates
- The "Application Workflow Logs" tracks and time stamps approvals and messages.







#### **Event Forms**

- Event forms are: Amendments, Requests for Annual Approvals, Request for Acknowledgment, Serious Adverse Event (SAE) Reporting, Safety Updates and Study Completion.
- Event Forms are to be submitted for <u>approved</u> ethics application(s) only.
- Event Forms can be accessed, completed and submitted by any member of the project team (i.e. the PI, Sub-investigator(s), Research Coordinator, etc.).
- Romeo is a shared database with the IWK so IWK Event Forms are also visible. To submit
  an Event to the Nova Scotia Health REB, ensure you select the applicable NS Heath Event
  Form.

Event Form Name	Description
IWK Acknowledgement Request	Letters/notifications from the study team, sponsor, etc. that require an acknowledgement that the REB has received specific information. Examples would include: studies on placed hold, or reactivated: studies closed to accrual/errollment, status updates, etc.
IWK Amendment Request	This includes amendments to research protocols, consent forms, supporting materials and product information
IWK Annual Renewal Request	REB approval will expire on the last day of the specified approval period, normally effective for 1 year. To ensure continuing approval, an Annual Approval Request is required 4-6 weeks prior to the expiry date, If approval expires all study activities must cease immediately, and the REB may close your file.
IWK Major Study Violation	Major study violations are deviations from regulatory requirements or REB-approved documents, policies, and/or processes that impact data integrity, participant safety, privacy/confidentiality willingness to continue in the study. Examples include: obtaining informed consent with an outdated or unapproved version of the consent beginning study procedures before consent was obtained, enrolling participants who didn't meet eligibility criteria; omitting key protocol-required tests or procedures; medication errors, including prescribing a contraindicated medication; using the wrong survey instrument or using or releasing personal information without the participant's consent. + CLINAL: REALS: Deviations that DO NOT meet the criteria of a Major Violatic are to be submitted to the REB using the Minor Deviation Reporting form as part of the Annual Renewal process. Najor study violations must be reported to the REB upon discovery.
IWK SAE/SUSAR - for local SAE/SUSAR Reporting	Adverse event: Any untoward medical occurrence experienced by a research participant. SAE: Serious Adverse Event. SUSAR: Suspected Unexpected Serious Adverse Reaction. An adverse event that is 'serious' and 'unexpected' and related or possibly related to participation in the research. Adverse events that do not meet all three of these criteria should not be reported to the REB.
IWK Safety Related Event Reporting (External SAEs, Minor Protocol Deviations, PSUR, DSMB, Safety Alerts)	External SAEs, Minor Protocol Deviation, PSUR: Periodic Safety Update Reports, DSMB: Data & Safety Monitoring Board updates, sponsor issued Safety Alerts or other sponsor provided safety information.
TWK Study Closure	If there are any unreported minor study deviations, please attach a completed report (see template)
IWK Study Personnel Change Notification	Use this form to notify the REB of changes to your project feam for this study.
NSHA Acknowledgement Request	Letters/notifications from the study toam, sponsor, etc. that require an acknowledgement that the REB has received specific information. Examples would include: studies on hold, off hold; studies do does do accord/errorllment, etc.
NSHA Amendment Request	This includes research protocols, ethics application forms, consent forms/addendums, research team contact pages, supporting materials, and product information.
NSHA Annual Renewal Request	REB approval for this study will expire on the last day of the specified approval period. To ensure continuing review, submit an Annual Approval Request 2-4 weeks prior to this date. If approval not renewed on time, the Board will close your file and you must cease all study activities immediately.
NSHA Local Serious Unexpected Adverse Reaction Reporting Form	Adverse event: Any untoward medical occurrence experienced by a research participant. Serious unexpected adverse reaction (SUAR); An adverse event that is 'serious' and 'unexpected' and related or possibly related to participation in the research. Adverse events that do not meet all three of these criteria are not SUAR); An adverse event that is 'serious' and 'unexpected' and related or possibly related to participation in the research. Adverse events that do not meet all three of these criteria are not SUAR); An adverse event that is 'serious' and 'unexpected' and related or possibly related to participation in the research. Adverse events that do not meet all three of these criteria are not SUAR).
NSHA Major Study Violation	Major study violations are deviations from applicable regulatory requirements or REB approved documents, policies and/or processes that impact data integrity or participant safety, privacy/confidentiality, or willingness to continue in the study.
NSHA Notification of Change in Study Personnel.	Use this form to notify the REB of changes to your project team for this study.
NSHA Safety related events reporting (PSUR, DSMB, Safety Alerts)	(Periodic Safety Update Reporting (PSUR), Data & Safety Monitoring Board (DSMB) updates, sponsor issued safety alerts and/or sponsor provided safety information.
NSHA Study Closure	





### **Accessing Event Forms**

You can access Event Forms at any time either under the quick link, "Applications: Post Review" (PI or team member depending on your role in the project).









### Accessing Event Forms - Applications - Post Review

By clicking on "Applications – Post Review", you may view all of your approved ethics applications.

To submit an Event Form (i.e. amendment form, a serious adverse event (SAE) or an annual approval (renewal) request), click on "Events."



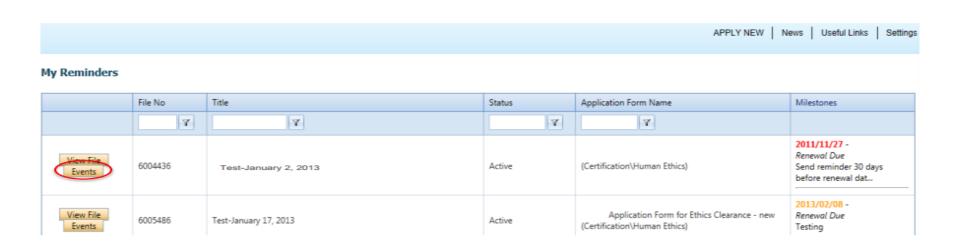




### Accessing Event Forms – Reminders

From the "Reminders" quick link you will see the due date of the "Milestones" (milestones are set for initial letters and annual renewals).

Dates in yellow font are coming due, while dates in red font are past due. Click on "Events" to access the forms.







#### **Event Info Tab**

Save	Close Print Export to Word Export to PDF Submit
Event Info	NSHA Annual Renewal Request Attachments Logs
Note(s)	

Researchers and Research Coordinators are invited to add comments if they wish. For example, if a study is being reports as closed to recruitment, insert a note.





# Completing the Event Form - Example: Request for Annual Renewal

Please Note: The process for submitting any type of Event Form is the same as what is described on the next few slides.

Answer all of the questions!

Complete the all studies tab (Interventional and Non-Interventional Studies) and either the Interventional or Non-Interventional tab (as it pertains to your study).

Complete the Minor Study Deviation tab if applicable.

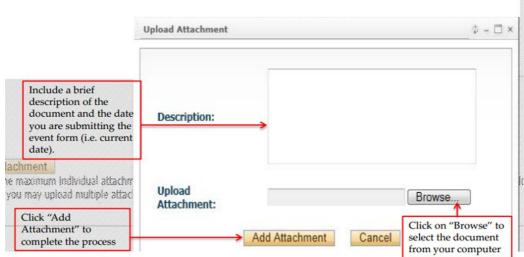
Save Close Print Export to Word Export to PDI	F Submit
Event Info NSHA Annual Renewal Request Attachments	Logs
All Studies (Interventional & Non-Interventional studies) Interventional	onal Study Non-Interventional Study Minor Study Deviation
Complete this form for ALL studies (Interventional request for annual renewal.  1 1.1 What is the status of the study (tick all that apply)?  Enrolling participants  Enrollment complete  Study procedures ongoing  Study procedures complete  Data analysis phase  Study has not yet started	& Non-Interventional Studies) IN ADDITION to either the Interventional OR the Non-Interventional  Tip! Remember that ROMEO does not have an automatic save feature. Users are encouraged to hit the "Save" button after completing each tab.





#### **Attachments Tab**

- 1) Multiple attachments may be uploaded to the Event Form
- 2) Attachments may be Word documents, Excel spreadsheets, jpeg files, pdfs, etc.
- 3) The maximum size Romeo allows is 5MB. If your file is larger than that, try 'zipping' the file or saving it as a compressed PDF document. If this is not sufficient to meet the file size restriction, simply break the file into pieces equal to or less than the maximum size accepted by the Portal, <u>clearly label each piece</u> (e.g., 'Part 1 of 5 IB') and upload.
- 4) To ensure successful uploads, please note the following:
- ❖ Do not attach files that include the following characters in the file name: ", # % & \* : < > ? / { } | ~
- Do not use the period character in the middle of a file name, or at either the start or end of a file name
- File names should not exceed 128 characters



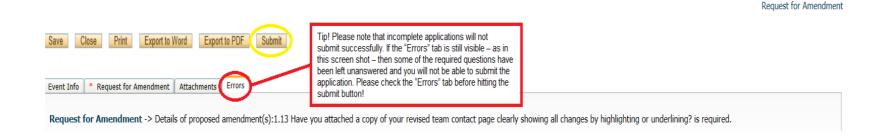




#### Submitting the Event Form

Assuming the PI has delegated this task, all members of the project team (i.e. PI, Sub-Investigator, Research Coordinator, etc.) are able to submit event forms by clicking the "Submit" button at the top of the form.

Romeo does not send automated emails confirming submission of Event Forms.







### Tracking the Event Form

To check the status of the Event Form, click on "Applications - Post Review" and then click on "Events."

Event forms that were started and saved, but not submitted will appear under "Events: Drafts."

Events: Drafts						^
	Event No	Event Category	Event Form	Comments	Latest Update	^
View Event Edit Delete	100283 - <b>Ref No : 947</b>	Amendment	NSHA Amendment Request	This is a test Amendment Form		
View Event Edit Delete	100283 - Ref No : 9037	Amendment	NSHA Amendment Request		Nadine Gillam on 11/23/2016 7:56:37 AM	<b>~</b>
Events: Requiring Attention						
Events: Under Review						V

Once the event form has been submitted, it will move down to "Events: Under Review." You will be able to view the event but will no longer be able to edit it.



Note that the "Status" of the application indicates: "Submitted by Researcher".





#### Tracking the Event Form (cont'd)

When the Event Status is "pending," this means that the event has been reviewed by the Research Ethics Office and it awaiting approval from the Co-Chair.



When the event form has been approved, it will move to the quick link, Events: Post Review and the event status will change from "Pending" to "Approved." The project team will receive a confirmation email and a formal approval letter. This letter has also been attached to the original application and can be viewed through the "Attachments" tab by any project team member.

ents: Drafts					
vents: Requiring Attention					
vents: Under Review					
vents: Post Review					
	Event No	Event Category	Event Submission Date	Event Status	Latest Update
View Event	100283 - 9985498	Amendment (NSHA Amendment Request)	2017/03/07	Approved	ngillam on 3/7/2017 12:08:18 PM
View Event	100283 - <b>9948203</b>	Renewal (NSHA Annual Renewal Request)	2016/02/26	Approved	
View Event	100283 - <b>9927563</b>	Renewal (NSHA Annual Renewal Request)	2015/08/24	Approved	
View Event	100283 - <b>9921675</b>	Amendment (NSHA Amendment Request)	2015/05/28	Approved	





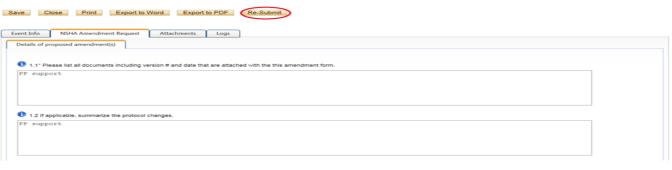
### **Event Form - Requiring Attention**

Here you will find any event forms that have been returned by the REB Office to the research team for clarifications/revisions.

Click the "Edit" button to access the form and make any corrections that have been indicated in a separate email that would have been sent to you from the REB office.



Once the corrections have been made choose the re-submit button at the top of the screen to send the event back to the REB office for review and approval.







### Need assistance/have a question?

Contact the NS Health REB Office

ResearchEthics@nshealth.ca



