

Re: Western Research Ethics Management (WREM) Rollout Update

Dear Colleagues,

As a follow-up to my previous memos on June 26 and July 17, I wanted to provide some additional information about the launch of our new online protocol submission platform – Western Research Ethics Manager (WREM) – on **September 7, 2017**.

Attestation

My previous memo indicated chairs, chiefs and department heads will now be responsible for providing a one-time initial attestation. To clarify, the one-time attestation will only be required on submissions that have been determined by the REB to require a full board review (i.e., delegated submissions will not require a chairs, chiefs and department heads attestation) and the REB review will NOT be delayed while waiting for the attestation but an REB approval letter will not be issued until the attestation has been documented in WREM.

ROMEO Shutdown

ROMEO will shut down at midnight on August 31, 2017 and you will begin using WREM as of September 7. To allow for a successful data migration between the two systems, you will not have access to ROMEO or WREM between these dates. I apologize for any inconvenience this may cause.

Migration

1st Migration – September 7, 2017

- All studies approved in ROMEO up to Aug 31, 2017 will be migrated to WREM.
- There will be no access to ROMEO or WREM during Sept 1-6 as data migration will be taking place during this time.
- All new submissions and any post approval submissions (for those studies that were initially migrated to WREM) are to be created using the new platform.
- Information that will be initially migrated will include: REB number, full study title, PI name, initial approval date, expiry date, those designated as Research Support Staff.

Important notes:

- No information about post-approval submissions (e.g., amendment, CER, reportable events, etc.) will be migrated during the 1st migration. This information will be migrated during the 2nd migration.
- No study documents (incl. the ROMEO Application Form (“Western Protocol”)) will be migrated into WREM.
- All those designated as Research Support Staff in a ROMEO file will also have access to the migrated file in WREM.

2nd Migration – date TBD

- If your initial submission or post-approval submission has been submitted – *but not approved* – in ROMEO by August 31, it will be migrated during the 2nd migration.

To help minimize delays, please be aware of the following:

- Save copies of ALL currently approved documents (e.g., ROMEO Application Form (“Western Protocol”), Letters of Information, etc.) from ROMEO to your secured network drive for easy access.

Training

Training for WREM began on July 11. Please visit our dedicated rollout [website](#) to register for an upcoming session, schedule individual training, or for additional information.

WREM will launch in conjunction with new software tools at Lawson Health Research Institute, which is implementing ReDA (Research Database Application) and LORA (Lawson Online Research Applications) for registering and managing clinical research approvals. For more information about these platforms, please visit the [Lawson Health Research Institute website](#).

For those currently using CTO Stream, please contact our office to determine whether this training is right for you as it is very similar to what was held when the Clinical Trials Ontario system rolled out.

We look forward to working closely with the research community to successfully roll out these new platforms. Thank you for your ongoing support and cooperation.

Sincerely,

Erika Basile, Director, Human Research Ethics