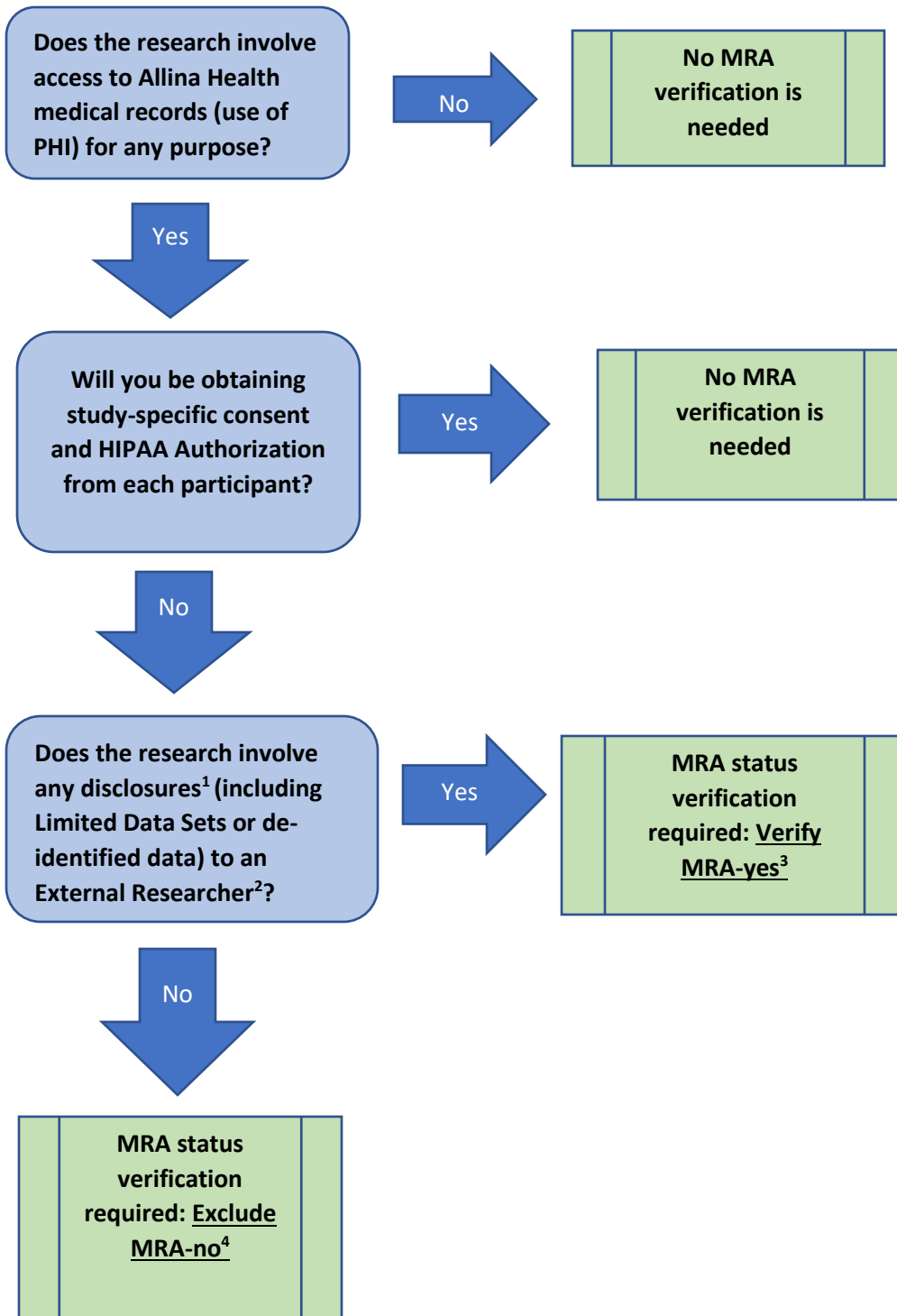


Minnesota Research Authorization (MRA) Decision Tree

This document is a supplemental tool to support compliance with the Use and Disclosure of PHI for Research policy. Refer to the policy for full descriptions and discussions of the Minnesota Research Authorization and how it applies to research at Allina Health, including specific circumstances not covered here like screening and recruitment. Contact irb@allina.com with any questions or inquiries about specific circumstances.



Definitions

1 Disclosure: The release, transfer, provision of access to, or divulging of information in any other manner outside Allina Health (i.e., to an External Researcher).

2 External Researcher: a researcher who is not an Internal Researcher. An **Internal Researcher** is a researcher who is (1) employed by Allina Health and/or the organizations covered by the Allina Health Notice of Privacy Practices and/or owned by the Allina Health System, (2) credentialed as a member of the Allina Health Medical Staff, (3) affiliated through a direct contract at Allina Health facilities, related sites, and specialty programs, or (4) as designated by the Compliance & Privacy Department.

3 MRA-yes: An MRA status that denotes that a patient (living or deceased) has provided consent for the use and disclosure of their medical records for research purposes on the ROI form (i.e., they did NOT select the box to object to the use and disclosure and signed the form). If data from medical records are to be disclosed to an External Researcher, an MRA-yes status must be confirmed prior to the use and disclosure of information from the medical records for research purposes. An MRA-yes does not replace HIPAA Authorization for studies that require it.

4 MRA-no: An MRA status that denotes that a patient (living or deceased) has explicitly declined the use and release of their medical records for research purposes on the ROI form (i.e., they checked the box to opt out of records research and signed the form). If data from medical records are to be used or disclosed for research purposes by any researcher without HIPAA Authorization (e.g., chart review research), MRA-no must be excluded. An MRA-no status does not mean that a patient will never be contacted about participating in any research study. Those with a status of MRA-no can enroll in research with HIPAA Authorization, however, this enrollment does not change their MRA status for other research.