

# DEPARTMENT OF ANESTHESIOLOGY

VANDERBILT  UNIVERSITY  
MEDICAL CENTER

**Title:** Department of Anesthesiology Research Executive Committee (AREC)

**Created:** 06-3-12

**Revised:** 04-23-16

**Overview:** The role of the Anesthesiology Research Executive Committee is to provide oversight of all aspects of the Department's research mission.

Membership and meetings: The committee is chaired by the Vice Chair for Research. The Executive Vice Chair, the Vice Chair for Faculty Affairs, the Chair of the Vanderbilt Anesthesiology Clinical Research Advisory Committee (VACRAC), the Director of Perioperative Data Systems Research, the Director of the Clinical Trials Research Group, the Director of Basic Science Research, and the Research Compliance Officer are *ex officio* members. Additional members may include faculty members who are active in basic science research, clinical/translational research, or health services research, and a faculty biostatistician. The Departmental Contracts and Grants manager serves as staff to this committee. The committee meets as frequently as required to conduct its business.

## **Procedures:**

1. AREC reviews and updates the research components of the Department's Strategic Plan at least annually.
2. AREC provides strategic and tactical guidance for the Department's research mission.
3. AREC approves and prioritizes resource requests for research projects and communicates those priorities to the Department research infrastructure (e.g., Perioperative Data Systems Research group (PDSR), Director of the Clinical Trials Research Group, Biostatistics, etc).
  - a. Requests for resources may be submitted to AREC by Anesthesiology faculty through the Department's Innovation Grant program or through other mechanisms such as referrals from the Chair, EC or Division Chiefs.
  - b. AREC reviews and approves the decisions of VACRAC.
  - c. AREC serves as a facilitator between Departmental faculty and the Vanderbilt Institute for Clinical and Translational Research (VICTR).
  - d. AREC reviews and makes recommendations for the use and prioritization of Departmental research resources and infrastructure (including for faculty and staff use of PDSR, PCRI, Biostatistics, basic research cores, etc).
4. AREC provides oversight of all aspects of the Department's research compliance.
  - a. AREC oversees compliance with all policies and procedures related to the responsible conduct of research by Departmental faculty and staff.

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- b. AREC works with the Department's Research Compliance Officer and the Director of the Clinical Trials Research Group on any issues raised related to the safe and ethical conduct of human and health services research.
- c. AREC works with the Department's Research Compliance Officer and the Director of Basic Science Research on any issues raised related to the safe and ethical conduct of research involving animals, tissues, and other non-human research.
- d. AREC reviews and provides recommendations to the Department Chair on any issues raised by human subjects or animal care protocols submitted by Departmental faculty that are not addressed through other mechanisms.