Baystate Health | ADVANCING CARE. ENHANCING LIVES.

Attention Nurses and Nursing Students!

If you are a **nurse or nursing student** submitting a research project to the IRB (including HSRD submissions), your application must include the signature of the **Program Director of Nursing Research**.

- The current Program Director of Nursing Research is **Cidalia Vital**.
- This requirement applies to **all nurse-initiated studies, DNP projects, student projects, and quality improvement projects (HSRD applications)**.
- The Program Director's signature must be included in your submission package **before you send it to the IRB**.

📌 **Contact Information**
Program Director of Nursing Research: **Cidalia Vital**
Office/Pager: 413-794-9806 Cidalia.vital@baystatehealth.org

✅ **Plan ahead:** Obtain this signature at the **very beginning of your project planning**. Doing so helps ensure your study does not overlap with other ongoing projects at Baystate and prevents unnecessary delays.

FAQ: What You Need to Know

- **How do I get the signature?**
  Reach out directly to Cidalia Vital, Program Director of Nursing Research, using the contact information above.
- **When should I request the signature?**
  At the very start of planning your project. Early review helps align your project with current initiatives.
- **What if I forget the signature and submit anyway?**
  Your submission will be incomplete and delayed until the signature is obtained.
- **Does this apply to QI projects too?**
  Yes. Both **quality improvement (HSRD applications)** and **human subjects research** submitted by nurses require this signature.