**GUIDELINES ON LUCKY DRAW FOR**

**RECRUITMENT OF RESEARCH PARTICIPANTS**

(For Social, Behavioural and Educational Research (SBER) studies)

Approved by the NUS-IRB on 4 July 2013.

The IRB’s Statement on the use of lucky draws for the recruitment of participants in research studies is given below:

Preamble

1. The NUS-IRB is responsible for reviewing the ethical aspects of all NUS research projects that involve human research subjects.
2. The NUS-IRB is open to consider requests from researchers to allow the use of lucky draws in the recruitment of human subjects for research.

Exclusion

1. The NUS-IRB’s position is that **ALL** biomedical research studies that involve clinical interventions or experiments which carry some risk of harm would **NOT** be considered for lucky draws.

Principle of Reimbursement

1. The general rule is still to allow for reimbursement to research participants for participation (if reimbursement is provided) in research studies.

Guidelines

1. However, the NUS-IRB is prepared to consider the use of lucky draws in the recruitment of human subjects for research in a limited way and on a case-by-case basis, taking the following considerations into account:
2. Every research participant must have an equal chance of winning;
3. The value of the prize must be reasonable. When reviewing a proposed prize(s), IRB would consider the disparity between the standard guidance on reimbursement that subjects would have received and the value of the prize(s) that subjects are offered for the same study participation. This disparity should not be such as to exert undue influence on the research participants’ willingness to participate in the research study;
4. Any future increase in the number of research participants participating in the research will include provisions for making similar prizes (with similar odds of winning) available to the additional subjects.
5. Subjects can opt out of participating in the lucky draw if they wish; and
6. When there is little or insufficient funding for the research study, or individual payments are not feasible due to the large number of research participants. However, do note that the IRB may not necessarily find this argument persuasive or compelling.