

# Q-BITES

THE QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER BY



## Legally Acceptable Representative

The Legally Acceptable Representative (LAR) is one of the sections in the ICF which is rarely signed on. Who is a LAR and when does the LAR sign the ICF?

### Who is a LAR?

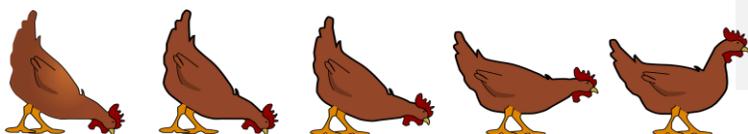
According to GCP, a LAR is an individual or juridical or other body authorized under applicable law to consent, on behalf of a prospective subject, to the subject's participation in the clinical trial. In short, a LAR can be summarized as an entity that gives consent when the subject is incapable to give their own consent.

### When does a LAR sign the ICF?

- Patient A comes for consenting process. Patient A has Hypertension and is illiterate. Is LAR needed?  
 No, even though illiterate the patient still can provide own consent.
- Patient B comes for consenting process. Patient B has Dementia that causes patient unable to consent. Patient's LAR is illiterate. Can the LAR sign the consent on behalf of the patient?  
 Yes, but the presence of an Impartial Witness is needed to ensure the LAR understand the information in the ICF.
- Patient C comes for consenting process. Patient C has Alzheimer's Disease and is unable to give consent. Patient C is accompanied by a friend. Can the friend consent as the LAR?  
 No, a LAR is usually the parents, spouse, children, siblings or relative of the patient depending on the family situation and the local law of the country. But the friend can consent as LAR if the friend is the official caretaker appointed by law.
- Patient D comes for consenting process. Patient D has Schizophrenia and is unable to consent. Can Patient D's son be the LAR?  
 Yes, the patient's son can be the LAR, but it should be determined if any other family member would disagree and has the legal right to challenge the son's decision.

### Points to Remember

- Always refer to GCP on the definition and need for a LAR.
- Presence of LAR is related to the inability of patient to consent (minor, unconscious, mental illness, etc).
- The LAR should have the right to consent on patient's behalf based on the local law.



## Catching the Chicken

A manager returned to his village for a break. His father was a farmer. The father realized his son was stressed and asked what was bothering him.

"I'm always busy and doing a lot of work but I'm not achieving anything. Most of the times due to being extremely busy I'm not able to complete my work and always get scolded by my boss," the son explained to his father.

The next morning, the father asked the son to help him in the farm. The father released 20 chickens from the coop and told his son to catch all of it. The son desperately ran back and forth trying to catch all the chicken that were running everywhere. By afternoon he did not manage to catch even one.

The father told the son to rest and come back after lunch. When the son came back, he saw the chickens now had different coloured ribbons tied on their leg.

"Now, catch the chicken with the yellow ribbon," the father told him.

The son ran back and forth trying to catch the chicken with the yellow ribbon. But this time he was focused on only one chicken. He ignored all the other chickens and only ran after the chicken with the yellow ribbon. After a while he managed to catch it. He was delighted and was jumping with joy.

"Son, if you run around trying to catch everything, you will end up with nothing. Focus on one, avoid other distractions and you will catch it. After catching one, you will have the excitement to go after the next one," his father advised.

Being an SC there are many tasks in hand with different timelines that we need to complete. If we run after all of it, we would not complete any of it. It is important to set priorities, label your work according to its importance and complete it one by one.

When you are overwhelmed by work, remember to tie your ribbon and you will surely get your chicken.