The Emergency Department Research Associate Program, begun in 1996, employees highly-trained University of Rochester undergraduate students as research professionals to screen, identify, consent, enroll, and follow-up on patients arriving to Strong Memorial Hospital’s Emergency Department (SMH ED), Highland Hospital’s Emergency Department (HH ED), and select University of Rochester Urgent Care (UC) locations. In this role, we have operationalized dozens of research protocols, many from outside the realm of emergency medicine, enrolling tens of thousands of patients.

This program is a University of Rochester service-center which provides a unique opportunity for investigators to access the over 200,000 patients who visit these locations each year. An initial quote can be provided at no cost for those who are preparing for a grant submission or looking to improve subject accrual in an existing project.

Our enrollers are present in the SMH ED for 16 hours per day, 7 days per week. They have enrolled for a multitude of different protocols, including FDA drug and device trials, R01 funded projects, and investigator-driven studies. The program operates under an umbrella IRB protocol. Below is the process for investigators wishing to utilize the program:

- Investigator develops an RSRB Protocol
- Investigator sends the protocol to the RSRB and to EMResearch@urmc.rochester.edu for inclusion in a weekly EM Research Committee (EMRC) meeting with faculty and staff in the department of emergency medicine.
- Protocol approved by the EMRC with or without revision.
- Protocol approved by RSRB
- Investigator requests an initial no-cost EDRA services quote from the EDRA Supervisor. This quote is sent to the investigator for review and approval
- The EDRA supervisor develops internal documents for the EDRAs to use when screening and enrolling patients.
- An initial study training is held near the start date for all EDRAs. Study teams are encouraged to attend.
- Enrollment begins
- Weekly reports of shift logs and number of patients enrolled, determined to be ineligible, refused, and missed are sent by the EDRA Supervisor to the investigator

The EDRA Program is highly flexible with the level of involvement required/requested in each protocol. Please contact EDRA Supervisor Joseph Glick at Joseph_Glick@urmc.Rochester.edu or x5-1173 with any questions or proposed projects. Thank you!