



**DATE:** September 14, 2006

**TO:** Nina Goodman, MHS, Public Health Advisor  
Office of Education and Special Initiatives, NCI

**FROM:** NIH Privacy Act Officer

**SUBJECT:** Non-applicability of the Privacy Act: Cancer Communication Messages

I have reviewed the NCI submission to OMB requesting approval for the pretesting of cancer communication messages and strategies and have determined that the Privacy Act will not apply to this data collection. Although some of the proposed methodologies will require the collection of personal information, data will not be retrieved by personal identifiers. Data analysis will involve retrieval by parameters relevant to the targeted audiences (e.g., gender, age, socioeconomic level, race/ethnicity, and family medical history, etc.).

As an additional measure of data security, NCI will remove identifying information from the data collected immediately following interviews and focus group sessions. Reports will be used only for research purposes and for the development of communication messages and educational materials.

If you have any questions, please contact my office at (301) 496-2832.

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "Karen M. Plá".

Karen M. Plá