



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 cursive script, reading "Karen M. Plá".

Karen M. Plá