

Date: September 1, 2009

To:

Anne O'Connor, MS, MT(ASCP)

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Anne,

I have reviewed the Information Collection Request package for the Model Performance Evaluation Program for *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* and Non-tuberculous *Mycobacteria* drug susceptibility testing. I have determined that it does not constitute research. IRB review is not required.

Data to be collected are not meant to be generalized or to contribute to the scientific understanding of specific infectious diseases. As such, this data collection would be considered public health practice. This data collection does not meet the definition of research under 45 CFR 46.102(d), and IRB review is not required.

Please let me know if you have any questions and if this information is sufficient.

Regards,

Shambavi Subbarao, Ph.D.

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