



DATE: November 16, 2009

TO: Hanyu Ni, Ph.D.
Project Officer, National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute

FROM: NIH Privacy Act Officer

SUBJECT: Applicability of the Privacy Act

I have reviewed the NHLBI submission to OMB entitled "The Atherosclerosis Risk in Communities Study" and determined that the Privacy Act will apply to this data collection.

Personally identifiable information will be collected from participants via telephone interviews and stored in a database that is designed to retrieve by name or identifier linked to the participants in order to re-contact a subset of respondents for annual follow-up of the ARIC cohort. However, in publications, the individual identities of participants are not disclosed, and data are reported only in the aggregate.

The data collection is covered by NIH Privacy Act Systems of Record 09-25-0200, "Clinical, Basic and Population-based Research Studies of the National Institutes of Health (NIH), HHS/NIH/OD".

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Karen M. Plá", is positioned above the printed name.

Karen M. Plá

Attachment