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January 4, 2010

To Whom It May Concern:

The Human Subjects Protection Committee has approved the research referenced below. As of 12/29/2009, all contingencies set on the original approval date have been met, and the study is now free to begin human subjects activities at any time.

Date of Approval: 12/8/2009
 HSPC Project ID: 2009-0586
 Project Title: Incorporating AHRQ QIs in Hospital Quality Improvement Practices
 Project Number: HQ140
 Principal Investigator: Donna Farley
 Funding Source: Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality
 Prime Recipient: RAND
 RAND Unit: Health
 Human Subjects: Yes
 Type of Review: Expedited
 Qualification Category: 7
 Assurance Number: FWA00003425
 IRB ID Number: IRB00000051
 Administrator: James Tebow, ext. 7173

The HSPC is RAND's Institutional Review Board to review research involving human subjects, as required by federal regulations. RAND's "Federalwide Assurance for the Protection of Human Subjects" (FWA00003425, effective through August 8, 2011) serves as our assurance of compliance with the regulations of 16 federal departments and agencies. According to this assurance, the Committee is responsible for review regardless of source of funding.

Sincerely,

James F. Tebow
 Co-Administrator
 RAND Human Subjects Protection Committee

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