

ATTACHMENT 10

Phase III Introductory Letters

- 10A. Phase III Introductory Letter for Iowa Respondents –
Pesticide Applicators
- 10B. Phase III Introductory Letter for North Carolina
Respondents
- 10C. Phase III Introductory Letter for Iowa Respondents –
Spouses



Agricultural Health Study Iowa Field Station

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www.aghealth.org

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Date:

To: Agricultural Health Study Participant

Thank you for your participation in the Agricultural Health Study (AHS), a research study funded by the National Institutes of Health and conducted in Iowa by researchers at the University of Iowa. The AHS is a long-term study to evaluate whether pesticide workers have higher rates of certain cancers and diseases. The study has been ongoing since 1993, and will continue for at least 10 more years.

Within the next few weeks you will receive a phone call from a member of our research team at the University of Iowa asking you to participate in an interview. The interview is being performed to ask you to update information you have previously provided to researchers of the Agricultural Health Study. You will be asked about your work experience and pesticide use, as well as certain health conditions you and your family may have experienced since you were last contacted, approximately five years ago. The interview will last for 15 to 35 minutes, depending on what you say.

Participation in this study is voluntary. There will be no penalties if you decide not to respond, either to the information collection as a whole or to any particular question. You will not have any costs by participating and there are no foreseeable risks or direct benefits to you. Study findings are provided on the Internet at www.aghealth.org, through pesticide applicator training sessions, and through fact sheets (enclosed), all of which summarize study findings.

The information you provide will be kept confidential and will not be disclosed in identifiable form to anyone but the researchers and contractors conducting this study or as provided by law. However, federal regulatory agencies and the University of Iowa Institutional Review Board (a committee that reviews and approves research studies) may inspect and copy records pertaining to this research. To protect study participant confidentiality, safeguards are in place. When study results are published, only summary information is reported, never names of study members. Personal identifying information is stored in separate password protected computerized files that are accessible only by authorized research staff. Documents containing personal identifiers are stored in lockable file cabinets. Staff members read and sign a confidentiality statement.

If you have any questions or concerns, or if your phone number has changed since enrollment, or if you do not wish to be contacted about this follow-up study, please call us at **1-800-217-1954**. If you have questions or concerns about your rights as a research subject, please contact the Human Subjects Office, 300 College of Medicine Administration Building, The University of Iowa, Iowa City, Iowa, 52242, (319) 335-6564, or e-mail irb@uiowa.edu. Again, we want to thank you for your assistance in making the Agricultural Health Study an important and successful study of health in the agricultural community. We look forward to speaking with you.

Sincerely,

Charles Lynch
Iowa Director

Michael Alavanja
Project Officer

Privacy Act Notification: 42 U.S.C. 285a of the Public Health Service Act authorizes collection of this information. It will be used to evaluate the role of agricultural exposures and other factors in the development of cancer, neurological disease, birth defects and other chronic diseases. All information is voluntary and if you decide not to provide all or any part of the requested information you will not be penalized or lose any benefits for which you otherwise qualify. We will keep your participation in this research study confidential to the extent permitted by law.



AGRICULTURAL HEALTH STUDY

NC OFFICE • BATTELLE • CENTERS FOR PUBLIC HEALTH RESEARCH & EVALUATION
100 CAPITOLA DR, SUITE 301 • DURHAM, NC 27713 • 1-800-4AG-STUDY

<name>

<address>

<address>

Dear (Mr./ Mrs) LAST NAME:

Thank you for your participation in the Agricultural Health Study. You and others in North Carolina and Iowa have helped scientists learn more about work and health. By continuing to follow our participants as they grow older, the study will become even more valuable to the growing understanding of our agricultural and rural communities.

We would like to ask you a few questions in a telephone interview to update the information you have already provided. What you tell us now might help scientists find answers to questions that would be very important to farmers and others – even to future generations.

The Agricultural Health Study (www.aghealth.org) is directed by the National Institutes of Health. All participation is voluntary. We will keep your answers confidential as provided by law. Identifiers will be stored in locked files or in password-protected computerized files available only to authorized research staff.

If you have any questions or concerns before we call you or if your telephone number has changed from (TELEPHONE NUMBER), please call us at 1.800.4AG.STUDY.

You are especially valuable to the study! It is very important that we include you again even if you are retired or no longer farming.

We look forward to speaking with you.

Sincerely,

Sincerely,

Charles Knott, M.P.A.
North Carolina Director

Michael C.R. Alavanja, Dr. P.H.
Project Officer, National Cancer
Institute

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You are one of about 21,000 spouses of pesticide applicators in Iowa who enrolled by either completing a written questionnaire or a telephone interview. **Even if your spouse or you are no longer farming or applying pesticides, your information is still important to us.** Many of the diseases we are studying, such as cancer, are due to exposures that occurred many years ago. This means we need to look well into the past to study the causes of these diseases. The study has been ongoing since 1993, and will continue for at least 10 more years.

Within the next few weeks you will receive a phone call from a member of our research team at the University of Iowa asking you to participate in an interview. You will be asked about your own pesticide use, as well as certain health conditions you and your family may have experienced since you were last contacted, approximately five years ago. The interview will last for 15 to 35 minutes, depending on what you say.

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