

Attachment D: AHRQ Letter

Dear XXX:

I am writing to encourage your participation in an interview being conducted by IMPAQ International and the RAND Corporation. The IMPAQ/RAND team has been contracted by the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) to conduct a synthesis of AHRQ-funded healthcare-associated infection (HAI) projects funded from fiscal year 2007 through fiscal year 2010. The goals of the synthesis are to:

1. Document the main results generated from AHRQ-funded HAI projects
2. Disseminate key findings from the HAI projects
3. Identify gaps in the HAI knowledgebase

One part of the IMPAQ/RAND team's data collection efforts involves interviews with individuals who lead or have led AHRQ-funded HAI projects and you have been identified as a project leader. Your participation would consist of a one-hour interview designed to learn about the HAI project you are leading. This includes research findings, identifying effective approaches for preventing and reducing HAIs and for promoting the widespread application of these approaches, and identifying opportunities for funding additional projects focused on generating and implementing knowledge on preventing HAIs.

AHRQ has selected IMPAQ International and the RAND Corporation to conduct this synthesis. IMPAQ International is a social science and policy research firm based in Columbia, Maryland. The RAND Corporation is an independent policy research organization, whose Health division is one of the largest private health research groups in the world. Both have extensive experience studying efforts aimed at preventing healthcare-associated infections.

Again, I urge you to participate in this important project. A representative from IMPAQ will contact you within a few days with more specific information. When you are contacted, I hope you will accept the invitation to share your perspective.

If you have any questions regarding the HAI Synthesis project, please do not hesitate to contact Dr. James Cleeman (James.Cleeman@ahrq.hhs.gov) or Dr. James Battles (James.Battles@ahrq.hhs.gov) at AHRQ, who are serving as the project officers for this effort.

Sincerely,

Carolyn M. Clancy, M.D.

Director, Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality