



**DATE:** April 15, 2013

**TO:** Gina S. Wei, M.D., Project Officer  
National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute

**FROM:** NIH Privacy Act Officer

**SUBJECT:** Applicability of the Privacy Act: "The Framingham Heart Study"

I have reviewed the NHLBI submission referenced above and have determined that the Privacy Act will apply to this data collection which is designed to 1) characterize risk factors for cardiovascular and lung diseases so that national prevention programs can be designed and implemented; 2) evaluate trends in cardiovascular diseases and risk factors over time to measure the impact of overall preventive measures; and, 3) understand the etiology of cardiovascular and lung diseases so that effective treatment and preventive modalities can be developed and tested.

The NHLBI contractor will invite study participants, schedule appointments, administer examinations and testing, enter information into computer terminals for editing, and prepare scientific reports of the information for publication in appropriate scientific journals.

The personally identifiable information (i.e., SSN, health exam, medical and lifestyle) proposed for collection on the long-term cohort data will be maintained in computer data files and also stored in paper record files. Access to the files, which link identification numbers with names, will be restricted and controlled by the Principal Investigator and Project Officer and made available only to authorized project personnel.

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

If you have questions, contact me at (301) 402-6201.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Karen M. Plá".

Karen M. Plá

Enclosure

cc: Kevin Purkiser, NHLBI OMB Project Clearance Liaison Office (w/o enclosure)