

**Subject:** Invitation to Participate in the Clinical Center U01 Program Evaluation

Dear Dr. XXX:

On behalf of the NIH, the *Eunice Kennedy Shriver* National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD) is leading a customer satisfaction assessment of the **Opportunities for Collaborative Research at the NIH Clinical Center (CC)** U01 program. The purpose of this assessment is to obtain customer satisfaction information on the program's implementation, processes, and operations and to inform the future direction of the program. As part of this process, the assessment team is planning to conduct interviews with key program participants. These interviews will include the IC Scientific/Intramural Research Directors, Clinical Directors, Program Officers, and Scientific Review Officers (SRO) from ICs with funded projects, as well as the intramural and extramural Principal Investigators.

The purpose of this email is to invite you to participate in a 30-45 minute semi-structured telephone interview with professional interviewers from Abt Associates, a contract firm. As an extramural principal investigator for a funded grant for the Clinical Center U01 program, you are an important stakeholder and we hope you will be able to provide us input on the program. The assessment team is especially interested in learning your satisfaction with the overall program, its implementation to date, and your experiences conducting collaborative research with an intramural investigator.

Your input is very important to the assessment of the Clinical Center U01 program. Participation is voluntary, of course, but we hope you will agree to participate. Individual respondents will not be identified and individual responses will not be shared with anyone outside the assessment team. (This team includes myself, Dr. Sarah Glavin, Acting Director, Office of Science Policy, Analysis and Communications; other staff within the NICHD Science Policy, Planning, and Evaluation Branch (SPPEB); and Dr. Luba Katz and her staff with Abt Associates.) The interview information collected from all participants will be aggregated and presented in summary form, with identifying details removed.

If you would like to participate, Dr. Luba Katz will contact you shortly via e-mail to schedule the interview. Please feel free to contact me at 301-594-3866 or [jennifer.guimond@nih.gov](mailto:jennifer.guimond@nih.gov) if you have questions regarding the interview or other issues related to the study. On behalf of NIH, thank you for considering this request to provide valuable input.

**Jenn**

**Jennifer Guimond, PhD**

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