



**DATE:** May 1, 2015

**TO:** Kevin Purkiser  
Program Analyst  
National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute

**FROM:** NIH Privacy Act Officer

**SUBJECT:** Applicability of the Privacy Act: Assessment of NHLBI Global Health Initiative  
Collaborating Centers of Excellence

I have reviewed the NHLBI submission to OMB referenced above. The project involves an evaluation of NHLBI's Center for Translation Research and Implementation Science (CTRIS) Global Health Initiative Collaborating Centers of Excellence (GHI COE). The evaluation will examine the extent to which the program achieved its intended objectives in developing sustainable research and research training capacity, and will advance information about the prevention and treatment of non-communicable, chronic cardiovascular and pulmonary diseases in developing countries.

The evaluation will consist of a one-time telephone interview with key informants from COEs and developed country partners, to solicit contextual information pertaining to outcome attainment across the four program objectives. The data collected by Westat will be used to develop a Case Study Report for each COE outlining their experience with implementing their program, as well as a comprehensive cross-site Lessons Learned Report describing knowledge and experiences from the overall program, including similarities and differences across a variety of project settings and conditions. Additionally, CTRIS intends to utilize program findings to develop future global health initiative ideas to be presented at NHLBI Idea Forum meetings. Data will only be reported to NHLBI. All computer entry, database, and analysis programs will be done with coded numbers only. All reports, study data collection, processing, and administrative forms will be identified by a unique code. Once the interviews have been summarized or transcribed, the audio recordings will be destroyed.

I have determined that the Privacy Act will apply to this data collection due to the fact that the data will be tracked by a participant identification number. The data collection is covered by NIH Privacy Act Systems of Record 09-25-0156, "Records of Participants in Programs and Respondents in Surveys Used to Evaluate Programs of the Public Health Service, HHS/PHS/NIH/OD." If you have questions, please contact me at (301) 402-6201.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Karen M. Plá".

Karen M. Plá

Enclosure