

From: Richard Danila
To: John Oswald; Peter Rode
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Subject: Re: IRB #06-146

No concerns

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*Linking Cancer Registry
Birth Certificate Registry
and Newborn Blood Spots*

>>> Peter Rode 7/7/2006 4:04:47 PM >>>

This study by a U of M cancer researcher would combine already-collected data from three MDH sources: The Cancer Surveillance System, the Birth Registry, and the Newborn Screening Program (blood spot). Much of the work of combining these data sources will be done within MDH by MDH staff, so that the PI will receive a dataset that contains little potentially identifying information.

The study appears to be exempt, under category 4. The only remotely identifiable information that the PI will receive is zip code from the MCSS (time of diagnosis), zip code from mother's mailing address from the birth certificate, and exact date of birth from both sources. The PI would not be able to use publicly available data sources to identify the child with these two data elements. (Although if he had access to our full birth certificate data base, he could identify some children in sparsely populated zip codes.)

The U of M IRB has found the study to be exempt. Do you have any concerns about the zip code and date of birth information?

Pete

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