



Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai
Mount Sinai Beth Israel
Mount Sinai Brooklyn
The Mount Sinai Hospital
Mount Sinai Queens
New York Eye and Ear Infirmary
of Mount Sinai
Mount Sinai St. Luke's
Mount Sinai West

**Program for the Protection
of Human Subjects**
Institutional Review Boards
Mount Sinai Health System
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Dear Research Participant:

You are receiving this letter because our records show you are enrolled, have taken part in, or are being followed by a research study conducted at Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai in 2017 that was funded by the National Institutes of Health (NIH). On October 1, 2017, NIH issued a federal Certificate of Confidentiality to the research project to further protect your identity as a research participant, and to protect the identifiable data (information about you), and/or identifiable biospecimens (like blood or tissue) collected or used under research studies funded by the NIH. This doesn't change your participation in the research or how the research is being conducted.

We are telling you of this added protection because this certificate limits the re-disclosure of your private information by researchers without your permission even in the face of court orders and subpoenas. A Certificate of Confidentiality does not prevent you or a member of your family from voluntarily releasing information about yourself or your involvement in this research. **This means that you and your family must also actively protect your own privacy.** If an insurer or employer learns about your research participation, and you agree that they can have your research information, then the researchers may not use the Certificate of Confidentiality to keep this information from them.

The Certificate of Confidentiality **will not prevent** the researchers from notifying appropriate authorities, if necessary, to protect you or others if the researchers learn that you or someone else is threatened with serious harm, such as you, a child or elderly person is being abused.

If you have any questions about what this notice means and would like to speak with someone, you may speak with the study's principal investigator or please call the Program for the Protection of Human Subjects office at 212-824-8200. If you would like to read more about Certificates of Confidentiality, their purpose, etc. the NIH has a website you can visit on-line at:

<https://humansubjects.nih.gov/coc/index>.

We appreciate your willingness to take part in research and are pleased that your identity, data and biospecimens have been granted additional protections by the NIH.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Glenn Martin".

Glenn Martin, MD DFAPA CIP
Senior Associate Dean for Human Subjects Research
Executive Director Program for the Protection of Human Subjects