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**COMMITTEE FOR THE PROTECTION OF HUMAN SUBJECTS**

Howard Hughes, PhD, Chair CPHS A  
Daniel O'Rourke, MD, Chair CPHS B and D  
Jack van Hoff, MD, Chair CPHS C

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**To:** Sohail Mirza  
**Date:** 08/05/2013  
**From:** The Committee for the Protection of Human Subjects  
**Committee Action:** Exemption Granted  
**IRB Action Date:** 08/03/2013  
**CPHS #:** 24223  
**Study Title:** Cohort Study of Treatment for Discogenic Back Pain  
**Comments:** - Approval for review of existing deidentified data collected for a previous study.

Thank you for submitting the information on the above referenced project.

Please regard this message as notification that the project has been designated EXEMPT from further review based on the federal regulation:

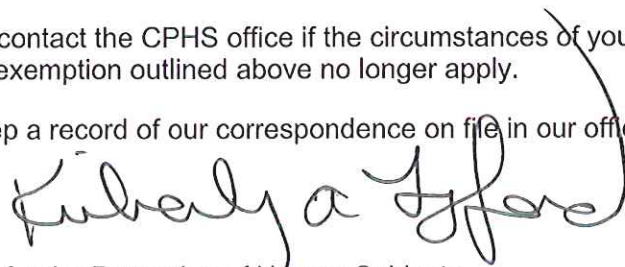
Exempt category #4: Use of Pre-Existing Data (Data must exist at the time the research is submitted for review.) Research involving the collection or study of existing data, documents, records, pathological specimens or diagnostic specimens if :i) these sources are publicly available, or ii) the information is recorded by the investigator in such a manner that subjects cannot be identified, directly or through identifiers linked to the subjects. 45 CFR Part 46.101(b)(4).

You have met the CPHS requirements to proceed with your project. Please be certain to adhere to departmental requirements as applicable.

Be sure to contact the CPHS office if the circumstances of your project change such that the federal criteria for exemption outlined above no longer apply.

We will keep a record of our correspondence on file in our office.

Sincerely,



Committee for the Protection of Human Subjects

cc: Judith Forman, MPH