



WHITE MOUNTAIN APACHE TRIBE

A Sovereign Tribal Nation

(Authorizing Johns Hopkins Center for Indigenous Health Research Entitled: “Phase III, Randomized, Observer-blind, Placebo-Controlled, Multi-Center, Multinational Study to Evaluate the Efficacy, Immunogenicity, and Safety of a Respiratory Syncytial Virus Vaccine in Infants and Toddlers (PEARL)”)

WHEREAS, The Constitution of the White Mountain Tribe (“Tribe”) of the Fort Apache Indian Reservation (“Reservation”) provides, at Article IV, Section I(a) that the Tribal Council (“Council”) shall exercise the power “[t]o represent the Tribe and act in all matters that concern the welfare of the Tribe”; and

WHEREAS, The Tribe and Johns Hopkins University’s Center for Indigenous Health (“JHU”) have a long history of conducting studies to address infectious diseases that occur at higher rates among White Mountain Apache and other Indigenous populations; and

WHEREAS, RSV (respiratory syncytial virus) can cause ‘colds’ in older children and adults, but RSV illness in infants can be very severe, leading to breathing problems and hospitalization, and is a leading cause of respiratory infection in children worldwide, particularly among White Mountain Apache infants and toddlers; and

WHEREAS, JHU, this day, requests authorization from the Tribe to conduct a phase III study to evaluate the feasibility of a new nasal spray vaccine to reduce RSV illness in healthy children; and

WHEREAS, The study would entail the following:

1. The overall study will enroll 6300 children from different sites around the world,
2. Children ages 6-22 months will be enrolled and randomly placed in a group to receive the RSV vaccine or placebo,
3. Participants will be followed for approximately 2 years with blood and nasal samples collected to measure the response to the vaccine and test for prevention of the RSV illness,
4. Medical chart reviews to assess any respiratory infections that occur; and

WHEREAS, The results of this project will provide information on the effectiveness in preventing RSV illness and is recommended for routine vaccine use for infants and toddlers; and

WHEREAS, The Council has reviewed JHU's request, and finds that authorizing this study will help prevent the spread of this disease and is in the best interest of the Tribe and its members.

Resolution No. 06-2024-123

BE IT RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it hereby authorizes Johns Hopkins Center for Indigenous Health to conduct the proposed research project, *“Phase III, randomized, observer-blind, placebo-controlled, multi-center, multinational study to evaluate the efficacy, immunogenicity, and safety of a Respiratory Syncytial Virus vaccine in infants and toddlers (PEARL)”*.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it hereby directs that in the event this Resolution directly conflicts with the Tribal Constitution, Tribal Ordinances, or any material facts concerning the issues presented are later found to be false, this Resolution shall be deemed null and void and have no legal effect.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it hereby directs that in the event that this Resolution conflicts with a prior Resolution or Policy, this Resolution shall supersede and govern over the conflicting subject matter.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that the Chairman, or in his absence, the Vice-Chairman, is hereby authorized to execute any and all documents necessary to effectuate the intent of this Resolution.

The foregoing resolution was on JUNE 05, 2024 duly adopted by a vote of ELEVEN for, ZERO against, and ZERO abstentions by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe, pursuant to authority vested in it under the enumerated powers listed in Article IV, Section 1, of the WMAT Constitution, so ratified on November 10, 2021, and federally recognized pursuant to Section 16 of the Indian Reorganization Act of June 18, 1934 (48 Stat. 984).

Kasey Velasquez 6.5.2024
Kasey Velasquez, Chairman Date

Vanessa Johnson 06/05/2024
Vanessa Johnson, Tribal Secretary Date