



WHITE MOUNTAIN APACHE TRIBE

A Sovereign Tribal Nation

(Approval of Proposed *Streptococcus Pyogenes* Pharyngitis Surveillance Study)

- WHEREAS,** the Tribal Council, and the Indian Health Service have worked together to identify health problems in the community and raise the level of health of all residents of the Reservation; and
- WHEREAS,** the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe in conjunction with Whiteriver Hospital of the Indian Health Service has monitored and responded to a variety of medical conditions to improve the community's health and quality of life; and
- WHEREAS,** *Streptococcus pyogenes*, Group A Strep infections like pharyngitis and skin infections and post-infectious complications like rheumatic heart disease, disproportionately affect American Indians, including the WMA community; and
- WHEREAS,** due to the concern regarding the burden of Group A Strep on the WMA community, particularly the youngest and most vulnerable members of the community; and
- WHEREAS,** the current available evidence on the screening and treatment of Group A Strep pharyngitis in children under 3-years (≤ 36 months) does not reflect the experience at Whiteriver hospital and current guidelines may be contributing to missed cases of Group A Strep infections in young WMA children; and
- WHEREAS,** the Whiteriver Service Unit of the Indian Health Service is requesting approval for the following surveillance study:
1. to determine the prevalence of Group A Strep pharyngitis and asymptomatic carriage among children under 3-years of age. Samples from throats of 250 symptomatic and 280 asymptomatic children ≤ 36 -months of age will be cultured using standard techniques. There will be no change to standard of care treatment and if cultures are positive for Group A Strep, families will be notified and offered treatment without delay; and
 2. to determine the *emm* type of Group A Strep that is present in the throats of children ≤ 36 -months and if the pathogen is know to cause rheumatic heart disease, kidney disease, or other post-infectious complications; and
 3. to characterize the symptoms of children ≤ 36 -months that have positive throat cultures for Group A Strep to better understand how these young patients present with infection and how they are different from older children with the same illness; and

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WHEREAS, When analyses are complete, IHS will present all data to the Tribal Council and Health Board for feedback and discussion of recommended next steps for diagnostics and treatment; and

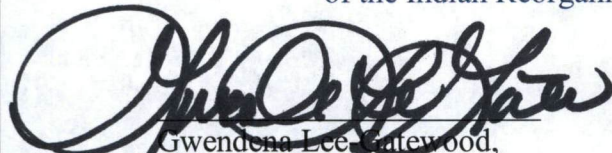
BE IT RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it hereby approves the surveillance study of Group A Strep pharyngitis in children ≤ 3 -years proposed by Whiteriver Service Unit Indian Health Service.

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.

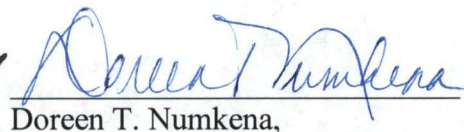
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it hereby directs that in the event that this Resolution conflicts with a prior Resolution or Policy, this Resolution shall supersede and govern over the conflicting subject matter.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that the Chairwoman, or in her 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 **AUGUST 01, 2018** duly adopted by a vote of **NINE** 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 September 30, 1993, and federally recognized pursuant to Section 16 of the Indian Reorganization Act of June 18, 1934 (48 Stat. 984).


Gwendana Lee Gatewood,
Tribal Chairwoman

8/9/18
Date


Doreen T. Numkena,
Tribal Secretary

8-9-18
Date