



WHITE MOUNTAIN APACHE TRIBE

A Sovereign Tribal Nation

(Approval of Proposed long-term Sequela of Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever 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,** since 2003 the tickborne disease known as Rocky Mountain spotted fever "RMSF" has resulted in a devastating loss of life and economic potential to tribal communities including the WMA community; and
- WHEREAS,** to date, more than 150 cases of RMSF have been reported from the WMA community; and
- WHEREAS,** RMSF is largely thought to be a rapidly progressing disease and once treated, most people recovery quickly from their illness; however, published literature suggested a small portion of people suffering from severe RMSF may never recover from damage done during their RMSF illness; and
- WHEREAS,** the current evidence on the long term health impact (sequela) of RMSF is limited and lack of sufficient information may result in inadequate management and care of patients recovering from RMSF; and
- WHEREAS,** small studies and individual case reports have suggested that these long-term outcomes may include blindness, hearing loss, paralysis, mental disability and other potentially permanent sequela; and
- WHEREAS,** the Whiteriver Service Unit of the Indian Health Service, the Arizona Department of Health Services ("ADHS") and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention ("CDC") is requesting approval for the following study:
1. Identify cases of RMSF with long term health outcomes or disability in persons hospitalized for RMSF between 2002-2017
 2. Describe neurological damage potentially caused by RMSF
 3. Characterize risk factors associated with such long-term neurological damage believed to result from RMSF

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WHEREAS, ADHS and CDC agree that their proposed protocol shall not disclose any confidential information protected by the Health insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (“HIPPA”); and

BE IT RESOLVED 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 publication and information dissemination.

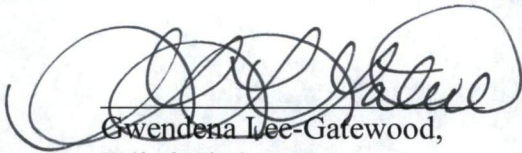
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it hereby approves the study Long-term sequela of Rocky Mountain spotted fever proposed by Whiteriver Service Unit Indian Health Service, ADHS, and CDC.

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.

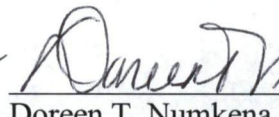
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it hereby directs that in the event that this Resolution conflicts with a prior Resolution or Policy, this Resolution shall supersede and govern over the conflicting subject matter.

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 **SEPTEMBER 12, 2018** duly adopted by a vote of **SEVEN** for, **ZERO** against, and **FOUR** 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).


Gwendena Lee-Gatewood,
Tribal Chairwoman

9/24/18
Date


Doreen T. Numkena,
Tribal Secretary

9/25/2018
Date