



# WHITE MOUNTAIN APACHE TRIBE

A Sovereign Tribal Nation

## (Approval of Proposed Naltrexone Study)

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- 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 medical conditions and developed innovative strategies to diagnose and treat such conditions; and
- WHEREAS,** alcohol-use disorder has a substantial impact on all communities in the United States, including American Indians, that leads to increased patient visits to the emergency room and an increase in hospitalizations; and
- WHEREAS,** there is a wide range of hospitalizations that occur secondary to alcohol use including but not limited to, acute intoxication, severe withdrawal, acute hepatitis, acute pancreatitis, infections, and trauma-related incidents; and
- WHEREAS,** medications to reduce the burden of alcohol-use disorder on communities are under-utilized and the full range of benefits from these therapies is poorly understood; and
- WHEREAS,** naltrexone is an FDA-approved medication that comes in an injectable form, that is proven to reduce the cravings for alcohol, is non-addictive, and is proven safe in a number of chronic diseases; and
- WHEREAS,** the Whiteriver Service Unit of the Indian Health Service is requesting approval for the following study:
1. to evaluate the effectiveness of monthly intramuscular naltrexone injections to reduce alcohol-use disorder-related admissions to the hospital. One-hundred patients that are admitted to the Whiteriver Service Unit and meet criteria for alcohol-use disorder will be offered intramuscular naltrexone at time of discharge. Patients will then be followed monthly for repeat injections and evaluation of their alcohol use; and
  2. to develop strategies for integrated treatment and social services for patients with alcohol use disorder after admission to the hospital for alcohol related illness. All 100 enrolled patients will be connected to Apache Behavioral Health and social services to combine naltrexone therapy with a full range of treatments. This will assist with developing comprehensive programs that combine medical and psychosocial services to reduce the impact of alcohol use disorder on patients and families; 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

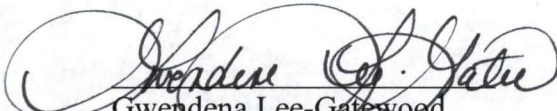
**BE IT RESOLVED** by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it hereby approves the study of naltrexone proposed by Whiteriver Service Unit, Indian Health Service.

**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.

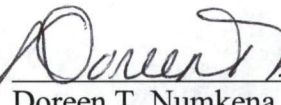
**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it hereby directs that in the event that this Resolution conflicts with a prior Resolution or Policy, this Resolution shall supersede and govern over the conflicting subject matter.

**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 **SEPTEMBER 12, 2018** 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 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