



# WHITE MOUNTAIN APACHE TRIBE

A Sovereign Tribal Nation

## **(Authorizing Johns Hopkins Center for American Indian Health Research Entitled: “Pneumococcal Carriage Among Native Americans in the Southwest”)**

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**WHEREAS,** The Constitution of the White Mountain Apache Tribe ("Tribe") of the Fort Apache Indian Reservation provides, at Article IV, Section 1(a) that the Tribal Council ("Council") shall exercise the power, "To represent the Tribe and act in all matters that concern the welfare of the Tribe, and to make decisions not inconsistent with or contrary to this constitution"; and

**WHEREAS,** The Tribe and Johns Hopkins University's Center for American Indian Health ("JHU") have a long history of conducting studies to address infectious diseases that occur at higher rates among the White Mountain Apache and other Native American populations; and

**WHEREAS,** *Streptococcus pneumoniae* is a germ that lives in the nose of healthy individuals (called "carriage") but sometimes causes disease, including pneumonia, meningitis and sepsis, among children; and

**WHEREAS,** Native American communities are disproportionately affected by pneumococcal disease despite the widespread availability and use of an effective vaccine; and

**WHEREAS,** JHU has conducted several studies over the past decade to understand the level of carriage with *S. pneumoniae* among children, but updated data are needed as new vaccines will be licensed in the next few years; and

**WHEREAS,** JHU, this day, requests authorization from the Tribe to conduct a study to understand how many children have *S. pneumoniae* carriage in the community and what strains are present; and

**WHEREAS,** The study would entail the following:

- 1) Approximately 100 children will be recruited over a 12-month period to participate in a one-time study visit;
- 2) Participation in the surveys is completely voluntary;
- 3) People who are interested in participating will go through informed consent, which will ensure that they understand the requirements and the risks and benefits;
- 4) A nasal swab, throat swab, questionnaire and chart review will be performed on all consenting participants;
- 5) Swabs will be tested for *S. pneumoniae* and other respiratory pathogens; and
- 6) The results of this project will provide current information on the extent of carriage of *S. pneumoniae* among children in the community, which can help us understand which pneumococcal vaccines will be most effective in preventing pneumococcal disease in the community; and,

*Resolution No. 08-2022-209*

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

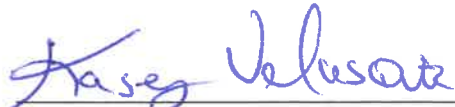
**BE IT RESOLVED** by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it hereby authorizes Johns Hopkins Center for American Indian Health to conduct research entitled "Pneumococcal Carriage Among Native Americans in the Southwest"

**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 AUGUST 3, 2022 duly adopted by a vote of EIGHT for, ZERO against, and TWO 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).

 8.5.22  
Kasey Velasquez, Chairman                      Date  
White Mountain Apache Tribe

 8/8/22  
Vaneyssa Johnson, Tribal Secretary                      Date