



# WHITE MOUNTAIN APACHE TRIBE

A Sovereign Tribal Nation

**(Authorizing Johns Hopkins Center for American Indian Health  
Research Study Entitled: “Group A Streptococcus (GAS) and Grant  
Application to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for  
the Same)**

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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 I(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,** “*Addressing the emerging burden of invasive group A Streptococcus and Staphylococcus aureus diseases among American Indians*” was one of four projects on the NARCH X grant proposal authorized by Resolution No. 04-2017-71; and

**WHEREAS,** JHU, this day, requests to proceed with a new grant application for the same proposal through the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, due to the original funding not being awarded; and

**WHEREAS,** Those following activities originally identified in Resolution No. 04-2017-71 will remain the same:

1. (a) Add group A *Streptococcus* to an ongoing surveillance project (that already includes *S. aureus*) for tracking invasive disease, (b) identify risk factors for disease caused by group A *Streptococcus* and *S. aureus* by enrolling and comparing characteristics of diseased and healthy individuals, (c) develop interventions based on the findings of b to reduce the risk of group A *Streptococcus* and *S. aureus* disease, and (d) perform lab testing on the group A *Streptococcus* and *S. aureus* germs to learn about transmission and how to reduce transmission; and
2. Perform lab testing on the GAS germs from patients with pharyngitis (sore throat) (as authorized by Resolution No. 01-2019-12); and

**WHEREAS,** Data analyses will be de-identified and maintained with the highest standards of confidentiality. When first analyses are complete, the local JHU Apache study team with our JHCAIH technical advisors will present data to the Tribal Council and Health Board for feedback and discussion of recommended next steps for prevention; and

**WHEREAS,** Council has reviewed the request by JHU, and finds that authorizing the grant application

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for the study will develop the body of knowledge around this disease and its occurrences and transmission on the Fort Apache Indian Reservation, 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 submit a grant application to the *Centers for Disease Control and Prevention* to continue the above listed activities of *group A Streptococcus* in order to and better understanding the burden of disease and strains of GAS circulating among the White Mountain Apache community.

**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).

Kasey Velasquez 8.5.22  
Kasey Velasquez, Chairman                      Date  
White Mountain Apache Tribe

Daneysa Johnson 8/8/22  
Daneysa Johnson, Tribal Secretary                      Date