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**Institutional Review Board Office  
Northwestern University**

Biomedical IRB  
750 North Lake Shore Drive  
Suite 700  
Chicago, Illinois 60611  
312-503-9338

Social and Behavioral Sciences IRB  
600 Foster Street  
Chambers Hall, Second Floor  
Evanston, Illinois 60208  
847-467-1723



April 30, 2015

To Whom It May Concern,

The Northwestern University (NU) IRB Office does not provide a signature on IRB correspondence generated through its electronic IRB system (eIRB+). All communication sent from the NU IRB Office via eIRB+ is considered official NU IRB business. Communication sent via eIRB+ is only sent by authorized individuals of the NU IRB.

The NU IRB Office considers written consent that is documented through an electronic signature (scanned, digital image or typed name logically associated with the consent, executed or adopted by a person with the intent to sign the record) as the binding equivalent of traditional hand-written signatures, subject to applicable University policies.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Heather J. Gipson", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Heather J. Gipson, JD, MA  
Northwestern University  
Director, Institutional Review Boards