

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
National Institutes of Health  
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention  
U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY



July 13, 2010

Dear Colleagues:

We are pleased to provide you with a series of documents relating to the July 2010 Meeting of the National Children's Study Federal Advisory Committee (NCSAC). As you know, our meeting will be held July 21, 2010 at the Natcher Conference Center in Bethesda, MD. Invited participants include members of the NCSAC, the Interagency Coordinating Committee (ICC), and the Program Office (PO).

The NCSAC will meet on July 21, from 9:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m. The July NCSAC meeting will include discussions pertaining to the NCS Policy and Practice on the Return of Research Results in the context of real time analysis and the potential need for a framework for environmental methodologies.

Current NCS Policy and Practice on the Return of Research Results is anthropometric measurements such as height, weight, and blood pressure, would be shared immediately with participants, but that analytes from environmental samples and biological specimens would be indefinitely in storage and if and when samples would be assayed would be on a de-identified basis so that there should be no expectations of sharing results of laboratory analyses. The introduction of real time analysis may introduce additional considerations for the NCS Policy and Practice on the Return of Research Results and we are seeking input on what, if any, adjustments may be recommended.

Environmental contaminants of potential interest have multiple assay standards. Recent discussions suggest that consistent terminology and centrally accessible databases that exist in some research domains are absent for the environmental topics of interest. We will hear presentations from the NCS Program Office, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and the United States Geological Survey (USGS) to discuss these and other issues related to environmental assay methodologies. We are seeking advice on options to assure that environmental data will be consistent and interoperable with other data types.

In addition, the Committee will also receive updates on the status of the NCS Data from Senior Scientist, Dr. Jessica Graber, and a general update from the Acting Director of the National Children's Study, Dr. Steven Hirschfeld.

If you have any questions about the upcoming meeting or the information included in this letter, please feel free to contact me or Ms. Jessica DiBari, Executive Secretary/Designated Federal Official of the NCSAC, at 301.451.2135. We look forward to your participation.

Sincerely,

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