

**DATA USE CERTIFICATION AGREEMENT**  
**Cancer Genomics Characterization Initiative (CGCI)**  
*(July 26, 2013, version)*

**INTRODUCTION AND STATEMENT OF POLICY**

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) has an established central data repository called the database of Genotypes and Phenotypes (dbGaP) for securely storing and sharing human data submitted to NIH under the [Policy for Sharing of Data Obtained in NIH Supported or Conducted Genome-Wide Association Studies \(GWAS\)](#) and the [NIH Genomic Data Sharing \(GDS\) Policy](#). Implicit in the establishment of dbGaP is that scientific progress in genomic research will be greatly enhanced if the data are readily available to all scientific investigators and shared in a manner consistent with the research participants' informed consent.

Access to human genomic data will be provided to research investigators who, along with their institutions, have certified their agreement with the expectations and terms of access detailed below. It is the intent of NIH and the NCI that approved users of dbGaP datasets recognize any restrictions on data use established by the submitting institution through the Institutional Certification and stated on the dbGaP study page.

Definitions of terminology used in this document are found in the Appendix.

The parties to this agreement include: the Principal Investigator (PI) requesting access to the genomic study dataset (the "Approved User"), his/her home institution as represented by the Institutional Signing Official designated through the eRA Commons system (the "Requester"), and the relevant NIH Institute or Center (IC). The effective date of this agreement shall be the Project Approval Date, as specified on the Data Access Committee (DAC) approval notification.

**TERMS OF ACCESS**

**1. Research Use**

The Requester agrees that if access is approved, (1) the PI named in the Data Access Request (DAR) and (2) those named in the "Senior/Key Person Profile" section of the DAR, including the Information Technology Director or his/her designee, and any trainee, employee, or contractor<sup>1</sup> working on the proposed research project under the direct oversight of these individuals, shall become Approved Users of the requested dataset(s). Research use will occur solely in connection with the approved research project described in the DAR, which includes a 1-2 paragraph description of the research objectives and design. New uses of these data outside those described in the DAR will require submission of a new DAR; modifications to the research project will require submission of an amendment to this application (e.g., adding or deleting collaborators from the same institution, adding datasets to an approved project). Access to the requested dataset(s) is granted for a period of 1 year as defined below.

Contributing Investigators, or their direct collaborators, who provided the data or samples used to generate an

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<sup>1</sup> If contractor services are to be utilized, the principal investigator (PI) requesting the data must provide a brief description of the services that the contractor will perform for the PI (e.g., data cleaning services) in the research use statement of the DAR. Additionally, the Key Personnel section of the DAR must include the name of the contractor's employee(s) who will conduct the work. These requirements apply whether the contractor carries out the work at the PI's facility or at the contractor's facility. In addition, the PI is expected to include in any contract agreement requirements to ensure that any of the contractor's employees who have access to the data adhere to the [NIH Policy for Sharing of Data Obtained in NIH Supported or Conducted Genome-Wide Association Studies](#), the data use certification agreement, and the dbGaP data Security Best Practices Requirements. Note that any scientific collaborators, including contractors, who are not at the same institution as the PI must submit their own DAR.

NIH genomic dataset and who have Institutional Review Board (IRB) approval, if applicable, for broad use of the data are exempt from the limitation on the scope of the research use as defined in the DAR.

### ***NCI Specific Terms:***

The National Cancer Institute follows the NIH [Policy for Sharing of Data Obtained in NIH Supported or Conducted Genome-Wide Association Studies \(GWAS\)](#) and [NIH Genomic Data Sharing \(GDS\) Policy](#) the Cancer Genome Characterization Initiative (CGCI) within the database of Genotypes and Phenotypes (dbGaP) for securely storing and sharing raw and low level sequencing human data submitted to NIH's NCBI sequence read archive (SRA) as well as the OCG's [CGCI Data Matrix](#) for storing results of analyses ("higher level") of the sequencing along with all other data types.

It is the intent of NIH and the NCI that approved users of dbGaP CGCI datasets recognize any restrictions on data use established by the submitting institution through the Institutional Certification and stated on the CGCI Project pages (<https://ocg.cancer.gov/programs/cgci/cgci-publications/>).

### ***Data Use Limitations:***

The eNCI DAC recognizes that the **data use limitations** below apply to the CGCI – NHL, HTMCPC, and BLGSP datasets, as stated on the dbGaP study page:

Use of the data must be related to Cancer. Use of the data includes methods development research (e.g., development of software or algorithms).

The eNCI DAC recognizes that the **data use limitations** below apply to the CGCI – Medulloblastoma (MB) pediatric dataset, as stated on the dbGaP study page:

These data may be used for research relevant to the biology, causes, treatment and late complications of pediatric cancers. Access to protected medulloblastoma data will be granted solely for those research projects that can only be conducted using pediatric data (i.e., the research objectives cannot be accomplished using data from adults) and that focus on the development of more effective treatments, diagnostic tests, or prognostic markers for childhood cancers. Applications proposing methods, software, or other tool development would not be considered acceptable uses of the data.

## **2. Requester and Approved User Responsibilities**

The Requester agrees through the submission of the DAR that the PI named in the DAR has reviewed and understands the principles for responsible research use and data handling of the genomic datasets as defined in the [NIH Genomic Data Sharing \(GDS\) Policy](#) and as detailed in this Data Use Certification (DUC) agreement and in the [dbGaP Approved User Code of Conduct](#). The Requester and Approved Users further acknowledge that they are responsible for ensuring that all uses of the data are consistent with federal, state, and local laws and regulations and any relevant institutional policies. The Requester certifies that the Approved User is in good standing (i.e., no known sanctions) with the institution, relevant funding agencies, and regulatory agencies

and is eligible to conduct independent research (i.e., is not a postdoctoral fellow, student, or trainee). The Requester and all Approved Users may use the dataset(s) only in accordance with the parameters described on the dbGaP website for the appropriate research use, as well as any limitations on such the use, of the dataset(s) and as described in the DAR and as required by law.

Through submission of the DAR, the PI agrees to submit either a project renewal or close-out request prior to the expiration date of the 1-year data access period. The PI also agrees to submit an annual progress update or a final progress report at the 1-year anniversary of the DAR, as described under *Research Use Reporting* below. Failure to submit a renewal or complete the close-out process, including confirmation of data destruction by the Signing Official, may result in termination of all current data access and/or suspension of the Approved User and all associated key personnel and collaborators from submitting new DARs for a period to be determined by NIH. Repeated violations or unresponsiveness to NIH requests may result in further measures affecting the Requester.

Approved Users who may have access to personal identifying information for research participants in the original study at their institution or through their collaborators may be required to have IRB approval. By approving and submitting the attached DAR, the Institutional Signing Official provides assurance that relevant institutional policies and applicable federal, state, and local laws and regulations (if any) have been followed, including IRB approval if required. The Institutional Signing Official also assures through the approval of the DAR that other institutional departments with relevant authorities (e.g., those overseeing human subjects research, information technology, or technology transfer) have reviewed the relevant sections of the NIH GWAS Data Sharing Policy and the associated procedures and are in agreement with the principles defined.

In some cases, NIH anticipates that dbGaP datasets will be updated with additional information. Unless otherwise indicated, all statements herein are presumed to be true and applicable to the access and use of all versions of these datasets.

### **3. Public Posting of Approved Users' Research Use Statement**

PIs agree that if they become Approved Users, information about themselves and their approved research use will be posted publicly on the dbGaP website. The information includes the Approved User's name and institution, project name, research use statement, and a non-technical summary of the research use statement. In addition, citations of publications resulting from the use of NIH genomic datasets may be posted on NIH data repository websites.

### **4. Non-Identification**

Approved Users agree not to use the requested datasets, either alone or in concert with any other information, to identify or contact individual participants from whom data and/or DNA samples were collected. This provision does not apply to research investigators operating with specific IRB approval, pursuant to 45 CFR 46, to contact individuals within datasets or to obtain and use identifying information under an IRB approved research protocol. All investigators conducting "human subjects research" within the scope of 45 CFR 46 must comply with the requirements contained therein.

### **5. Non-Transferability**

The Requester and Approved Users agree to retain control of the data and further agree not to distribute data obtained through the DAR to any entity or individual not covered in the submitted DAR. If Approved Users are provided access to NIH genomic datasets for inter-institutional collaborative research described in the research use statement of the DAR, and all members of the collaboration are also Approved Users through their home institution(s), data obtained through this DAR may be securely transmitted within the collaborative group.

Approved Users are expected to follow all data security practices and other terms of use defined in this agreement and the [dbGaP Security Best Practices](#) for raw data and any derived data, including transmission of these data.

The Requester and Approved Users acknowledge responsibility for ensuring the review and agreement to the terms within this DUC and the appropriate research use of NIH genomic data by research staff associated with any approved project, subject to applicable laws and regulations. NIH genomic datasets obtained through this DAR, in whole or in part, may not be sold to any individual at any point in time for any purpose.

Approved Users agree that if they change institutions during the access period they will complete the DAR close-out process before moving to their new institution. A new DAR and DUC, in which the new institution agrees to the NIH GWAS Data Sharing Policy, must be approved by the relevant NIH DAC(s) before data access resumes. As part of the close-out process, any versions of the data stored at the prior institution should be destroyed and destruction confirmed in writing by the Signing Official, as described below. However, with advance written notice and approval by the eNCI DAC to transfer responsibility for the approved research project to another Approved User from the PI's prior institution, the data may not need to be destroyed.

## 6. Data Security and Data Release Reporting

The Requester and Approved Users, including the institutional Information Technology Director or his/her designee, acknowledge NIH's expectation that they have reviewed and agree to handle the requested dataset(s) according to the current [dbGaP Security Best Practices](#), including its detailed description of requirements for security and encryption. These include, but are not limited to:

- All Approved Users have completed all required computer security training required by their institution, for example, the <http://irtsectraining.nih.gov/>, or the equivalent.
- The data will always be physically secured (e.g., through camera surveillance, locks on doors/computers, security guard).
- Servers must not be accessible directly from the internet, (e.g., they must be behind a firewall or not connected to a larger network) and unnecessary services should be disabled.
- Use of portable media (e.g., CD, flash drive or laptop) is discouraged, but if necessary then they should be encrypted consistent with applicable law.
- Updated anti-virus/anti-spyware software is used.
- Security auditing/intrusion detection software that regularly scans and detects potential data intrusions should be in place.
- Strong password policies for file access are used.
- All copies of the dataset are destroyed, as permitted by law and local institutional policies, whenever any of the following occurs:
  - the DUC expires and renewal is not sought;
  - access renewal is not granted;
  - DAC requests destruction of the dataset; and
  - continued use of the data would no longer be consistent with the DUC.

In addition, the Requester and Approved Users agree to keep the data secure and confidential at all times and to adhere to information technology practices in all aspects of data management to assure that only authorized individuals can gain access to NIH genomic datasets. This agreement includes the maintenance of appropriate controls over any copies or derivatives of the data obtained through this Data Access Request.

Requesters and Approved Users agree to notify the eNCI DAC of any unauthorized data sharing, breaches of data security, violations in the presentation and publication embargo period, or inadvertent data releases that may compromise data confidentiality within 24 hours of when the incident is identified. As permitted by law, notifications should include any known information regarding the incident and a general description of the

activities or process in place to define and remediate the situation fully. Within 3 business days of the eNCI DAC notification, the Requester, through the Approved User and the Institutional Signing Official, agree to submit to the eNCI Data Access Committee a more detailed written report including the date and nature of the event, actions taken or to be taken to remediate the issue(s), and plans or processes developed to prevent further problems, including specific information on timelines anticipated for action.

**All notifications and written reports of data security incidents should be sent to:**

eNCI Data Access Committee URGENT:

ncidac-urgent@mail.nih.gov

GWAS mailbox: [gwas@mail.nih.gov](mailto:gwas@mail.nih.gov)

NCI, NIH, or another entity designated by NIH may, as permitted by law, also investigate any data security incident. Approved Users and their associates agree to support such investigations and provide information, within the limits of applicable local, state, and federal laws and regulations. In addition, Requesters and Approved Users agree to work with the eNCI DAC and NIH to assure that plans and procedures that are developed to address identified problems are mutually acceptable and consistent with applicable law.

## 7. Intellectual Property

By requesting access to genomic dataset(s), the Requester and Approved Users acknowledge the intent of the NIH that anyone authorized for research access through the attached DAR follow the intellectual property (IP) principles in the [NIH Genomic Data Sharing \(GDS\) Policy](#) as summarized below:

Achieving maximum public benefit is the ultimate goal of data distribution through the NIH genomic data repositories. The NIH encourages broad use of NIH-supported genotype-phenotype data that is consistent with a responsible approach to management of intellectual property derived from downstream discoveries, as outlined in the NIH's [Best Practices for the Licensing of Genomic Inventions](#) and its [Research Tools Policy](#).

The NIH considers these data should be considered as pre-competitive and urges Approved Users to avoid making IP claims derived directly from the genomic dataset(s). It is expected that these NIH-provided data, and conclusions derived therefrom, will remain freely available, without requirement for licensing. However, the NIH also recognizes the importance of the subsequent development of IP on downstream discoveries, especially in therapeutics, which will be necessary to support full investment in products to benefit the public.

## 8. Research Dissemination and Acknowledgement of NIH Genomic Study Datasets

It is NIH's intent to promote the dissemination of research findings from NIH genomic dataset(s) as widely as possible through scientific publication or other appropriate public dissemination mechanisms. Approved Users are strongly encouraged to publish their results in peer-reviewed journals and to present research findings at scientific meetings.

In accord with the [NIH Genomic Data Sharing \(GDS\) Policy](#), and as expressed through the submission of the DAR, Approved Users acknowledge NIH's expectation that they will not submit findings using the CGCI dataset(s), or updated versions thereof, for publication or presentation for a period of exclusivity for Contributing Investigators: **See NCI Specific Terms below for details.**

Approved Users agree to acknowledge the Contributing Investigator(s) who submitted data from the original study to dbGaP, the primary funding organization that supported the Contributing Investigators, and the NIH data repository, in all oral and written presentations, disclosures, and publications resulting from any analyses

of dbGaP data. Approved Users further agree that the acknowledgment shall include the dbGaP accession number to the specific version of the dataset(s) analyzed. A sample acknowledgment statement for the TARGET dataset(s) follows: **See NCI Specific Terms below for details.**

### ***NCI Specific Terms:***

Please note the three (3) sections below, and follow each accordingly.

#### **CGCI Period of Exclusivity for Contributing Investigators**

In accord with the Fort Lauderdale principles for community projects as well as the NIH Genomic Data Sharing (GDS) Policy, and as agreed to through the submission of the DAR, Approved Users acknowledge NIH's and the NCI's expectation that they will abide by the **period of exclusivity for Contributing Investigators** in regards to submitting findings using the CGCI dataset(s) (or updated versions thereof) for publication or presentation. This period expires as outlined on the CGCI Publication Guidelines webpage (<https://ocg.cancer.gov/programs/cgci/cgci-publications>).

**Approved users who plan to submit manuscripts using the CGCI – HTMCP & BLGSP data are expected to abide by the publication process as outlined in the CGCI Publication Guidelines document on the project webpage**

(<https://ocg.cancer.gov/programs/cgci/cgci-publications>).

**Specifically, comparable scope is defined as global genome-wide analysis of CGCI – HTMCP & BLGSP disease-specific data from one or more than one platform or a trans-HTMCP DLBCL, HTMCP cervical cancer, HTMCP lung cancer or trans-BLGSP manuscript. Publication involving such analyses is restricted prior to each of the first disease-specific publications.**

#### **Acknowledging CGCI Projects and Data**

**Approved Users agree to acknowledge the appropriate CGCI project and the NIH data repository** used to store the data analyzed, in all oral and written presentations, disclosures, and publications resulting from any analyses of CGCI data. Approved Users further agree that the acknowledgment shall include:

- the **dbGaP accession number and retrieval date**, when using data stored in dbGaP OR
- the **specific version of the dataset(s) analyzed**, when using data stored at the CGCI Data Coordinating Center (DCC) and accessed through the CGCI Data Matrix.

#### ***CGCI Acknowledgment Statement***

**A sample acknowledgment statement** for the CGCI dataset(s) follows:

“The results published here are in whole or part based upon data generated by the Cancer Genome Characterization Initiative, [insert project name here (i.e. Non-Hodgkin Lymphoma project)], developed and/or managed by the NCI. The data used for this analysis are available [fill in with dbGaP and/or DCC references]. Information about CGCI projects can be found at <https://ocg.cancer.gov/programs/cgci>”.

### **CGCI dbGaP Accession Numbers**

When sequence data (e.g. BAM or FASTQ accessed through dbGaP) are used for analysis, Approved Users shall reference the CGCI dbGaP accession number: phs000235.

If the data is from a single disease studied in CGCI, then the substudy dbGaP accession number is appropriate.

- Burkitt Lymphoma Genome Sequencing Project (BLGSP): phs000527
- HIV+ Tumor Molecular Characterization Project – Cervical Cancer (HTMCP – CC): phs000528
- HIV+ Tumor Molecular Characterization Project – Diffuse Large B-Cell Lymphoma (HTMCP – DLBCL): phs000529
- HIV+ Tumor Molecular Characterization Project – Lung Cancer (HTMCP – LC): phs000530
- Medulloblastoma (MB): phs000531
- Non-Hodgkin Lymphoma – Diffuse Large B-Cell Lymphoma (NHL – DLBCL): phs000532
- Non-Hodgkin Lymphoma – Follicular Lymphoma (NHL – FL): phs000533

\*Note: If data is used from both phs000532 & phs000533, then the reference can be to the larger project (i.e. “Non-Hodgkin Lymphoma (NHL): phs000532/533)

### **CGCI DCC Version Reference**

When data stored at the CGCI Data Coordinating Center (e.g. VCF or MAF sequence files pathology results, etc.) are used, Approved Users shall reference the version of the CGCI Data Matrix and include “Cancer Genome Characterization Initiative Data Matrix. Retrieve Month Day, Year. Website, <http://cgci.nci.nih.gov/dataMatrix/>.”

### **Citing CGCI Publications in Manuscripts Using CGCI Data**

Additionally, manuscripts using CGCI project datasets should cite each of the first papers published by the appropriate CGCI project or substudy (see list below):

\*Note: As the HTMCP or BLGSP project teams publish their first manuscripts, the reference to be cited will be added below.

1. Medulloblastoma (MB; phs000531):  
Parsons DW, Li M, Zhang X, Jones S, Leary RJ, Lin JC, Boca SM, Carter H, Samayoa J, Bettegowda C, et al. (2011 Jan). **The genetic landscape of the childhood cancer medulloblastoma.** *Science*, **331(6016)**:435-9.
2. Non-Hodgkin Lymphoma (NHL; phs000532/33):  
Morin RD, Johnson NA, Severson TM, Mungall AJ, An J, Goya R, Paul JE, Boyle M, Woolcock BW, Kuchenbauer F, et al. (2010 Feb). **Somatic mutations altering EZH2 (Tyr641) in follicular and diffuse large B-cell lymphomas of germinal-center origin.** *Nat Genet*, **42(2)**:181-5.

## **9. Research Use Reporting**

To assure adherence to NIH policies and procedures for genomic data, Approved Users agree to provide annual progress updates on how these data have been used, including presentations, publications, and the generation of intellectual property. This information helps NIH evaluate program activities and may be considered by the NIH GWAS governance committees as part of NIH's effort to provide ongoing oversight and management of NIH genomic data sharing activities.

Progress updates are provided as part of the annual project renewal or project close-out processes, prior to the expiration of the 1-year data access period. Approved Users who are seeking renewal or close-out of a project agree to complete the appropriate online forms and provide specific information such as publications or presentations that resulted from the use of the requested dataset(s), a summary of any plans for future research use, any violations of the terms of access described within this DUC and the implemented remediation, and information on any downstream intellectual property generated from the data. Approved Users also may include general comments regarding topics such as the effectiveness of the data access process (e.g., ease of access and use), appropriateness of data format, challenges in following the policies, and suggestions for improving data access or the program in general.

*Note that any inadvertent or inappropriate data release incidents should be reported to the eNCI DAC according to the agreements and instructions under Term 6.*

## **10. Non-Endorsement, Indemnification**

The Requester and Approved Users acknowledge that although all reasonable efforts have been taken to ensure the accuracy and reliability of NIH genomic data, the NIH, the eNCI DAC, and Contributing Investigators do not and cannot warrant the results that may be obtained by using any data included therein. NIH, the eNCI DAC, and all contributors to these datasets disclaim all warranties as to performance or fitness of the data for any particular purpose.

No indemnification for any loss, claim, damage, or liability is intended or provided by any party under this agreement. Each party shall be liable for any loss, claim, damage, or liability that said party incurs as a result of its activities under this agreement, except that NIH, as an agency of the United States, may be liable only to the extent provided under the Federal Tort Claims Act, 28 USC 2671 et seq.

## **11. Termination and Violations**

This DUC will be in effect for a period of 1 year from the date the dataset(s) are made accessible to the Approved User ("Approved Access Date"). At the end of the access period, Approved Users agree to report progress, and renew access or close-out the project. Upon project closure-out, Approved Users agree to destroy all copies of the requested dataset(s), except as required by publication practices or law to retain them. Copies of NIH genomic dataset(s) may not need to be destroyed if, with advance notice and approval by the eNCI DAC, the project has been transferred to another Approved User at the same institution. In this case, documentation must be provided that other Approved Users are using the dataset(s) under a DAC-approved DAR.

The Requester and Approved User acknowledge that the NIH or the eNCI DAC may terminate this agreement and immediately revoke access to all NIH genomic datasets at any time if the Requester is found to be no longer in agreement with the policies, principles and procedures of the NIH and the eNCI DAC.

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By submission of the attached DAR,

- The Requester through the Institutional Signing Official attests to the Approved Users' qualifications for access to and use of NIH genomic dataset(s) and agrees to the NIH principles, policies, and procedures for the use of the requested datasets as articulated in this document and as summarized in the dbGaP Approved User Code of Conduct, including the potential termination of access should any of these terms be violated.
- Requesters and the PI further acknowledge that they have shared this document, the [dbGaP Approved User Code of Conduct](#), and the [NIH Genomic Data Sharing \(GDS\) Policy](#), and procedures for access and use of genomic datasets with any Approved Users, appropriate research staff, and all other Key Personnel and collaborators identified in the DAR.
- Institutional Signing Officials acknowledge that they have considered the relevant NIH GWAS policies and procedures, that they have shared this document and the relevant policies and procedures with appropriate institutional departments, and have assured compliance with local institutional policies related to technology transfer, information technology, privacy, and human subjects research.
- Institutional Signing Officials also acknowledge that their institute is solely responsible for the conduct of all individuals who have access to the data under the DAR, including investigators, contractor staff (both on and off-site) and trainees.

## APPENDIX

### DEFINITIONS

**Approved User:** A user approved by the relevant Data Access Committee(s) to access one or more datasets for a specified period of time and only for the purposes outlined in the investigator's approved research use statement. Staff members and trainees under the direct supervision of the Approved User are also Approved Users and must abide by the terms laid out in the Data Use Certificate agreement.

**Collaborator:** An individual who is not under the direct supervision of the principal investigator (PI) (e.g., not a member of the PI's laboratory) who assists with the PI's dbGaP research project. Internal collaborators are employees of the Requester and work at the same location/campus as the PI. External collaborators are not employees of the Requester and/or do not work at the same location as the PI, and consequently must be independently approved to access dbGaP data.

**Contributing Investigator:** An investigator who submitted a genomic dataset to an NIH-designated data repository (e.g., dbGaP).

**Data Access Request (DAR):** A request submitted to a Data Access Committee for a specific "consent group" specifying the data to which access is sought, the planned research use, and the names of collaborators and the Information Technology Director. The DAR is signed by the investigator requesting the data and her/his Institutional Signing Official. Collaborators and project team members on a request must be from the same institution or organization.

**Data Derivative:** any data including individual-level data or aggregate genomic data that stems from the original dataset deposited (e.g. imputed or annotated data) in NIH-designated data repositories (e.g., dbGaP). Summary information that is expected to be shared through community publication practices is not included in this term.

**Data Use Agreement (DUC):** An agreement between the Approved User, the Requestor, and NIH regarding the terms associated with dbGaP data access and the expectations for use of dbGaP datasets.

**dbGaP Approved User Code of Conduct:** Key principles and practices agreed to by all research investigators requesting access to NIH controlled-access genomic data. The elements within the Code of Conduct reflect the terms of access in the Data Use Certification agreement. Failure to abide by the Code of Conduct may result in revocation of an investigator's access to any and all approved datasets. (See [https://dbgap.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/aa/GWAS\\_Code\\_of\\_Conduct.html](https://dbgap.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/aa/GWAS_Code_of_Conduct.html))

**Information Technology (IT) Director:** Individual with the necessary expertise and authority to vouch for the IT capacities at an academic institution, company, or other research entity and the ability of that institution to comply with NIH data security expectations. The IT Director is to be included as key personnel in the Data Access Request.

**Institutional Certification:** Certification by the Institution that delineates, among other items, the appropriate research uses of the data and the uses that are specifically excluded by the relevant informed consent documents. (See <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-07-088.html> )

**Institutional Signing Official:** Generally, a senior official at an institution with the authority to sign on behalf of the submitting investigator or an investigator who has submitted a Data Access Request or Project Request to NIH, authorized to enter their institution into a legally binding contract, and who is credentialed through the eRA Commons system.

**Progress Update:** Information included with the annual Data Access Request (DAR) renewal or close-out summarizing the analysis of dbGaP datasets obtained through the DAR and any publications and presentations derived from the work.

**Project Closeout:** Closeout of a research project that used controlled-access data from an NIH-designated data repository (e.g., dbGaP) and confirmation of data destruction when the research is completed and/or discontinued. (See <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK63627/>)

**Project Renewal:** Renewal of a principal investigator's access to controlled-access datasets for a prior-approved project before the expiration date of a Data Access Request or Project Request. (See [http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK63627/#DArequest.the\\_research\\_related\\_to\\_my\\_dbg](http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK63627/#DArequest.the_research_related_to_my_dbg))

**Requester:** The home institution or organization of the principal investigator that applies to dbGaP for access to NIH genomic data.

**Senior/Key Persons:** Collaborators at the home institution of the data submitter or requester, such as the Information Technology Director.

# Addendum to the Data Use Certification Agreement Modification of Data Security Terms and Best Practices

Effective for all dbGaP Data Access Requests submitted on or after March 23, 2015, Section 6 of the Data Use Certification Agreement is replaced in its entirety by the following:

## **6. Data Security and Data Release Reporting**

The Requester and Approved Users, including the institutional IT Director, acknowledge NIH's expectation that they have reviewed and agree to manage the requested dataset(s) according to the current NIH Security Best Practices for Controlled-Access Data Subject to the GDS Policy and the institutional IT security requirements and policies, and that the institution's IT security requirements and policies are sufficient to protect the confidentiality and integrity of the NIH controlled-access data entrusted to the Requester.

If approved by NIH to use cloud computing for the proposed research project, as outlined in the Research and Cloud Computing Use Statements of the Data Access Request, the Requester acknowledges that the IT Director has reviewed and understands the cloud computing guidelines in the NIH Security Best Practices for Controlled-Access Data Subject to the GDS Policy.

Requesters and PIs agree to notify the eNCI DAC of any unauthorized data sharing, breaches of data security, or inadvertent data releases that may compromise data confidentiality within 24 hours of when the incident is identified. As permitted by law, notifications should include any known information regarding the incident and a general description of the activities or process in place to define and remediate the situation fully. Within 3 business days of the eNCI DAC notification, the Requester, through the PI and the Institutional Signing Official, agree to submit to the eNCI Data Access Committee a detailed written report including the date and nature of the event, actions taken or to be taken to remediate the issue(s), and plans or processes developed to prevent further problems, including specific information on timelines anticipated for action.

### **All notifications and written reports of data security incidents should be sent to:**

eNCI Data Access Committee URGENT: [ncidac-urgent@mail.nih.gov](mailto:ncidac-urgent@mail.nih.gov)

GDS mailbox: [gds@mail.nih.gov](mailto:gds@mail.nih.gov)

NIH, or another entity designated by NIH may, as permitted by law, also investigate any data security incident. Approved Users and their associates agree to support such investigations and provide information, within the limits of applicable local, state, and federal laws and regulations. In addition, Requesters and Approved Users agree to work with the eNCI and NIH to assure that plans and procedures that are developed to address identified problems are mutually acceptable and consistent with applicable law.