**Dartmouth College • Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center**

**COMMITTEE FOR THE PROTECTION OF HUMAN SUBJECTS**

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**EXEMPT APPLICATION**

**Please complete: CPHS# PI: Samir Soneji, PhD**

* **All investigators and key personnel (co-investigators, coordinators, etc.) must have completed education in human subject protections before a study can be approved.**
* **For research to be eligible for Exemption from further IRB review the research must be minimal risk, and fit into one or more of the categories which are summarized below. Full descriptions of all the Exempt categories can be found** [**here**](http://www.dartmouth.edu/~cphs/tosubmit/categories.html)**.**
* **If you are completing this form on a Mac, indicate your answer to any checkboxes by bolding or highlighting, or by deleting any incorrect options.**

**Check the category(s) you believe describes your research:**

**YES.** (4) Research involving the collection or study of **existing** data, documents, records, pathological specimens, or diagnostic specimens, if these sources are publicly available or if the information is recorded by the investigator in such a manner that subjects cannot be identified, directly or through identifiers linked to the subjects.

Please confirm the following:

**YES.** The data or specimens to be collected or studied are all existing as of today's date.

**YES.** The data will be recorded for this study without any identifiers or codes linked to identifiers.

# Note: If your study does not meet both criteria, please fill out the Data, Specimens, and Registries Research Plan.

**You are asked to provide a brief description of your research in Rapport. So that CPHS may grant an exemption, please ensure you have provided information relating to the following:**

* The objectives of this project
* The consent process (**see below**)
* The procedures to be used
* The study population
* The nature of the data to be obtained
* How participant privacy will be protected and/or how data will be maintained confidentially.

**Consent process:**

In minimal risk research, it may be acceptable *not* to require a signature on a consent form. It may also be acceptable to use an information sheet in order to provide a description of the study to potential subjects. An information sheet template is available in the IRB Library in Rapport and on the CPHS website. Please upload any information sheets on the Consent Form and Recruitment materials page.

**Please provide the above listed information here, if not already provided in the brief description in Rapport:**

Objectives: To assess the contribution of screening on gains in life expectancy among patients diagnosed with breast, cervical, colorectal, and prostate cancer screening between 1973 and 2011.

Consent process. Cancer patients residing in National Cancer Institute’s Surveillance, Epidemiology, and End Results (SEER) registry previously consented to inclusion in the registry.

Procedures: Secondary analysis of existing cancer registry data. We quantify the contribution of screening on gains in life expectancy among cancer patients using well-developed statistical methods.

Study Population: 1.7 million patients diagnosed with breast, cervical, colorectal, and prostate cancer between 1973 and 2011 in the SEER registry database.

Nature of the Data to be Obtained. We will collect patient-level data including stage at cancer diagnosis, age at diagnosis (in five-year age intervals), year of diagnosis, date of death (if patient died), and cause of death. Data will be collected from publically available SEER registry database.

Patient Privacy. No PHI is available on the SEER registry database. We aggregate data across specific registries to create nationally representative mortality rates. We do not collect any other personal identifying information (e.g., patient zip code).