



TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF STATE HEALTH SERVICES

DAVID L. LAKEY, M.D.
COMMISSIONER

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TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF STATE HEALTH SERVICES AGREEMENT CONCERNING NON-DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION

This non-Disclosure Agreement is between the Hidalgo County Health Department, South Texas Veterans Health Care System, and the Department of State Health Services; Region 11; to assist with subjects enrolled in "Research Study Trials."

DSHS; Region 11; South Texas Veterans Health Care System, and the Hidalgo County Health Department agree to work collaboratively in implementing Texas Health and Safety Code Chapter 81, concerning the prevention, control, and reporting of communicable diseases. This collaborative work requires the mutual sharing of certain information made confidential by the statute at Texas Health and Safety Code §81.046, specifically, reports, records, and information relating to cases or suspected cases of diseases. This information is disclosed to Hidalgo County Health Department and the South Texas Veterans Health Care System only to assist DSHS; Region 11; in compliance with statutory duties under Chapter 81 of the Health and Safety Code. These are the control of communicable disease (§81.081), investigation of the causes of communicable disease and methods of prevention (§81.061), and to prevent the introduction of communicable disease into this state (§81.021).

DSHS; Region 11; requires that any individual who will view or handle the confidential information to comply with this confidentiality agreement. Therefore, Hidalgo County Health Department, South Texas Veterans Health Care System, and DSHS; Region 11; agree that:

1. the confidential information shall be disclosed only for the purpose for which it was received;
2. the information shall be labeled as confidential;
3. the confidential information shall be kept securely; and
4. the number of copies made of the confidential information or the notes taken from the confidential information that implicate the confidential nature of the information shall be controlled and all copies or notes that are not destroyed or returned to DSHS; Region 11; shall remain confidential and subject to the confidentiality agreement.
5. the confidential information shall not be re-disclosed to any other party or individual (other than the parties and individuals which have signed this agreement) for any purposes whatsoever.

Violation of this agreement may result in civil or criminal penalties or sanctions under the appropriate professional licensure statute or rule. Any questions on these provisions shall be referred to DSHS; Region 11.

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF STATE HEALTH SERVICES

Brian P. Smith, MD
Regional Director

Signature: Brian P. Smith MD

Date: 11 16 09

Marc Weiner, MD
Principal Investigator

Signature: Marc Weiner

Date: 12-2-09

Marie L. Weldon, FACHE, Director
South Texas Veterans Health Care System

Signature: Marie L. Weldon

Date: 12/21/09

Rene Ramirez
Hidalgo County Judge

Signature: _____

Date: _____