

National Networks Consortium for Tobacco Control and Prevention

October 11, 2011

Francis S. Collins, M.D., Ph.D.
Director, National Institutes of Health
One Center Drive, Building One, Room 126
Bethesda, Maryland 20892-0148

Dear Dr. Collins:

The allied National Networks Consortium applauds you for your recent announcement on the historic new FDA and NIH funded study on tobacco use and risk perception. This study will yield valuable and long overdue information on uptake, risk, and cessation that can really help us eventually decrease tobacco use prevalence.

Unfortunately, on first viewing of study description, we want to express concern that data issues for priority populations are adequately addressed.

Specifically we ask that the study includes:

- Routine demographic measures for sexual and gender minorities, per IOM recommendations.
- Disaggregated data collection for racial and ethnic categories, per IOM recommendations.
- Respondent reported data collection, versus interviewer determined, particularly for race, ethnicity, and sex.
- In language data collection, especially for Latinos, Asian Americans and Native Hawaiians/Pacific Islanders.
- Adequate low socio-economic indicators, particularly parental proxy indicators if it is a youth sample.

Please see our attached Joint Statement on Data Collection: Gaps and Best Practices Series for more information.

We look forward to your response and our continued collaboration towards eliminating all tobacco related disparities.

Sincerely,





Kim Alford, Program Manager
National Native Commercial Tobacco
Abuse Prevention Network
Inter-Tribal Council of Michigan



Dr. Scout, Program Director
The Network for LGBT Health Equity
The Fenway Institute, Fenway Health



Janet Porter, Program Director
Break Free Alliance – Low SES Network
Health Education Council



Rod Lew, Executive Director
Asian Pacific Partners for Empowerment,
Advocacy and Leadership (APPEAL)



Jeannette Noltenius, MA, PhD, National Director
National Latino Tobacco Control Network
Indiana Latino Institute



Delmonte Jefferson
Interim Executive Director
National African American Tobacco
Prevention Network

cc: Kathleen Sebelius, M.P.A., Secretary, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Francis S. Collins, M.D., Ph.D., Director, National Institutes of Health
Garth Graham, M.D., M.P.H., Deputy Assistant Secretary for Minority Health
Tim McAfee, M.D., M.P.H., Director, Office on Smoking and Health, NCCDPHP



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Lawrence Deyton, M.S.P.H., M.D.
Director, Center for Tobacco Products
U.S. Food and Drug Administration
9200 Corporate Boulevard, Room 110H
Rockville, MD 20850-322

Dear Dr. Deyton:

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