**Request for Use or Disclosure of Decedents PHI**

To use or disclose PHI of decedents for research, covered entities are not required to obtain authorizations from a personal representative or next of kin, a waiver or an alteration of the authorization, or a data use agreement. However, the covered entity must obtain from the researcher who is seeking access to decedents' PHI representations that the use and disclosure is sought solely for research on the PHI of decedents, that the PHI for which use or disclosure is sought is necessary for the research purposes and, at the request of the covered entity, documentation of the death of the individual(s) whose PHI is sought by the researchers. To request use or disclosure of decedent’s PHI, please complete the following:

Principal Investigator:       IRB Protocol Number:

1. Describe the research purposes for which you plan to use decedent’s PHI.

1. The use and disclosure is sought solely for research on the PHI of decedents. [ ]  Yes [ ]  No

If No, explain:

1. The PHI for which use or disclosure is sought is necessary for the research purposes.

[ ]  Yes [ ]  No

If No, explain:

1. Do you have documentation that establishes the fact that the individual(s) whose PHI you wish to use or disclose is deceased? [ ]  Yes [ ]  No

If No, explain:

1. Do you (and your research group, if applicable) agree to protect the privacy of the decedent(s) and their families by not publically identifying the information and by not contacting the personal representative or any family member of the decedent(s)?

[ ]  Yes [ ]  No

If No, explain:

1. Describe the safeguards you will utilize to prevent the use and disclosure of the PHI beyond the scope of this research project.

1. Describe the plan to keep track of and account for disclosures of the PHI.