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Jennifer Tsui, PhD, MPH
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Dear Drs. Llanos and Tsui,

I am writing to express my strong support for your proposed modification to the California Committee for the Protection of Human Subjects (CPHS) IRB protocol as part of the ACHIEVE Study. Specifically, I support your request to remove the requirement for documented (signed) consent and instead implement a waiver of documentation of consent.

As a Cervivor Ambassador and Cervivor Noir Lead with Cervivor, Inc., I am part of a global community of patient advocates dedicated to supporting and empowering individuals affected by cervical cancer. Our work focuses on education, reducing stigma, amplifying survivor voices, and advocating for equitable access to prevention, treatment, and survivorship resources.

From both my lived experience and my work with other cervical cancer survivors, I know that participation in research can feel intimidating, especially when it involves signing formal documents. For many individuals, particularly those from historically marginalized communities, requirements like written consent can raise concerns about privacy, trust, and how their information will be used. These concerns can discourage participation, even when individuals are interested in contributing to research that could benefit their communities.

Reducing these barriers is critical to ensuring that research reflects the voices and experiences of those most impacted by cervical cancer. I understand that your team has observed differences in response rates between the New Jersey State Cancer Registry (NJSCR), where a waiver of documentation of consent is permitted, and the Los Angeles Cancer Surveillance Program (LACSP), which currently requires signed consent. These findings reinforce the importance of creating more accessible and participant-centered approaches.



As a Community Advisory Board member of the ACHIEVE Study, I deeply value efforts to center the needs, comfort, and trust of participants. I believe that implementing a waiver of documentation of consent is an important step toward reducing stigma, increasing participation, and ensuring that survivor voices are included in research.

I fully support this request and look forward to continuing to work with you to advance equitable, inclusive, and community-informed cervical cancer research.

Sincerely,

Tiera Wade

Tiera Wade
Cervivor Ambassador
Cervivor Noir Lead
Cervivor, Inc.