

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Public Health Service

National Institutes of Health National Cancer Institute Bethesda, Maryland 20892

Name Address Address ***, 2006

Dear (Title/Name),

As a participant in the NIH-AARP Diet and Health Study, you have provided extremely valuable information for understanding the causes of a wide range of chronic diseases in older Americans. Thank you!

We are beginning a new research project with investigators from another branch of NIH, the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS)¹. This study is called The PAGE Study: Parkinson's, Genes and Environment Study. Parkinson's disease affects more than 1% of elderly Americans and its causes are largely unknown. The purpose of this new study is to determine the effects of genetic and environmental factors on the risk of Parkinson's disease.

To study the causes of Parkinson's disease, we would like to compare the information from individuals without the disease with that from Parkinson patients. You have been selected as a participant who did not have Parkinson's disease. Your participation is extremely valuable to better understand the causes of Parkinson's disease. Participation is voluntary and you may refuse at any time.

If you agree to participate we will need you to return the signed saliva collection consent form and complete the saliva collection kit for genetic analysis. Please return these materials using the prepaid envelope to Social & Scientific Systems, the company that provides research support for this study. Please keep the yellow copies of the forms for your records. These genetic results from you and thousands of other participants will be used for scientific research to find causes of Parkinson's disease. Later we may ask you to complete a telephone interview. All Information will be kept confidential and will be used exclusively for medical statistical purposes.

While this project will not benefit you directly, scientific knowledge gleaned from this study may help prevent or treat Parkinson's disease in the future. Enclosed are a study logo pen and \$1 as a token of our appreciation.

Please keep the enclosed brochure which provides more information about the study and telephone numbers to contact if you have questions. We very much appreciate your willingness to consider participating in this important study!

Sincerely,

Arthur Schatzkin, MD, Ph.D., National Cancer Institute

Honglei Chen, MD, Ph.D., National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences

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Enclosures: Saliva Kit and Consent Form, Parkinson's Fact Sheet, Brochure, Study Logo Pen, \$1, Prepaid Envelope

«StudyID»

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