Department of Veterans Affairs	**Authorization for Use & Release of Individually Identifiable Health Information for Veterans Health Administration (VHA) Research**	
Subject Name (Last, First, Middle Initial):	**Subject SSN** (last 4 only):	**Date of Birth:**
VA Facility (Name and Address): NY Harbor Healthcare System - Brooklyn Campus 800 Poly Place, Brooklyn, NY 11209		
VA Principal Investigator (PI): Melanie Jay, MD MS	**PI Contact Information:** Melanie.Jay@va.gov	
Study Title: The Peer Assisted Lifestyle (PAL) intervention protocol: A technology-assisted weight-loss intervention within Patient Aligned Care Teams at the VA		

Purpose of Study:

The purpose of this study is to test the impact of the PAL intervention on weight change and behavior in Veterans who are enrolled. The PAL intervention is a technology-assisted, weight management intervention in primary care settings at the Brooklyn VA campus. The study lasts 12 months, and requires 3 in-person visits.

USE OF YOUR INDIVIDUALLY IDENTIFIABLE HEALTH INFORMATION (IIHI):

Your individually identifiable health information is information about you that contains your health information and information that would identify you such as your name, date of birth, or other individual identifiers. VHA is asking you to allow the VA Principal Investigator (PI) and /or the VA research team members to access and use your past or present health information in addition to new health information they may collect for the study named above. The investigators of this study are committed to protecting your privacy and the confidentiality of information related to your health care.

Signing this authorization is completely voluntary. However, your authorization (permission) is necessary to participate in this study. Your treatment, payment, enrollment, or eligibility for VA benefits will not be affected, whether or not you sign this authorization.

Your individually identifiable health information used for this VA study includes the information marked below:

- ☒ Information from your VA Health Records such as diagnoses, progress notes, medications, lab or radiology findings, etc.
- ☐ Specific information concerning:
  - ☐ alcohol abuse ☐ drug abuse ☐ sickle cell anemia ☐ HIV
- ☒ Demographic Information such as name, age, race, etc.
- ☐ Billing or Financial Records
- ☒ Photographs, Videotapes, and/or Audiotapes of you
- ☒ Questionnaire, Survey, and/or Subject Diary
- ☐ Other, as immediately described below:

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USE OF YOUR DATA OR SPECIMENS FOR OTHER RESEARCH: (This section must only be completed when banking is a required component of this study. When banking is an optional component of this study complete page 5 of this form in lieu of this section.)

☒ Not Applicable - No Data or Specimen Banking for Other Research

An important part of this research is to save your

☐ Data

☐ Specimen

in a secure repository/bank for other research studies in the future. If you do not agree to allow this use of your data and/or specimen for future studies approved by the required committees, such as the Institutional Review Board, you will not be able to participate in this study.

DISCLOSURE: The VA research team may need to disclose the information listed above to other people or institutions that are not part of VA. VA/VHA complies with the requirements of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA), Privacy Act of 1974 and all other applicable federal laws and regulations that protect your privacy. The VHA Notice of Privacy Practices (a separate document) provides more information on how we protect your information. If you do not have a copy of the Notice, the research team will provide one to you. Giving your permission by signing this authorization allows us to disclose your information to other institutions or persons outside the VA/VHA as noted below. Once your information has been disclosed outside VA/VHA, it may no longer be protected by federal laws and regulations and might be re-disclosed by the persons or institutions receiving the information. These non-VA/VHA institutions or persons include the entities marked below:

☐ Non-VA Institutional Review Board (IRB) at _____
who will monitor the study

☐ Study Sponsor (name): _____
Person or entity who takes responsibility for and initiates a clinical investigation

☐ Academic Affiliate (institution/name/employee/department): _____
A relationship with VA in the performance of this study

☐ Compliance and Safety Monitors: _____
Advises the Sponsor or PI regarding the continuing safety of this study

☐ Other Federal agencies required to monitor or oversee research (such as FDA, OHRP, GAO):

_____

_____

☐ A Non-Profit Corporation (name and specific purpose):

_____

☐ Other (e.g. name of contractor and specific purpose):

_____

_____

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Note: *Offices within VA/VHA that are responsible for oversight of VA research such as the Office of Research Oversight (ORO), the Office of Research and Development (ORD), the VA Office of Inspector General, the VA Office of General Counsel, the VA IRB and Research and Development Committee may also have access to your information in the performance of their VA/VHA job duties.*

Access to your Individually Identifiable Health Information created or obtained in the course of this research: While this study is being conducted, you

☐ will have access to your research related health records

☒ will not have access to your research related health records

This will not affect your VA healthcare including your doctor's ability to see your records as part of your normal care and will not affect your right to have access to the research records after the study is completed.

REVOCATION: If you sign this authorization you may change your mind and revoke or take back your permission at any time. You must do this in writing and must send your written request to the Principal Investigator for this study at the following address:

Melanie Jay, MD MS
423 East 23rd Street, Room 15161N
New York, NY 10010

If you revoke (take back) your permission, you will no longer be able to participate in this study but the benefits to which you are entitled will NOT be affected. If you revoke (take back) your permission, the research team may continue to use or disclose the information that it has already collected before you revoked (took back) your permission which the research team has relied upon for the research. Your written revocation is effective as soon as it is received by the study's Principal Investigator.

EXPIRATION: Unless you revoke (take back) your permission, your authorization to allow us to use and/or disclose your information will:

☐ Expire at the end of this research study

☐ Expire on the following date or event: _____

☒ Not expire

☐ Expires at the end of this research study unless you have: (1) provided additional permission to store your data and/or biological specimens in a research data repository or (2)when further optional analysis of your specimens has been completed

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Subject Name (Last, First, Middle Initial):	**Subject SSN** (last 4 only):	**Date of Birth:**

TO BE FILLED OUT BY THE SUBJECT

Research Subject Signature. This permission (authorization) has been explained to me and I have been given the opportunity to ask questions. If I believe that my privacy rights have been compromised, I may contact the VHA facility Privacy Officer to file a verbal or written complaint.

I give my authorization (permission) for the use and disclosure of my individually identifiable health information as described in this form. I will be given a signed copy of this form for my records.

Signature of Research Subject — Date

Signature of Legal Representative (if applicable) — Date

To Sign for Research Subject (Attach authority to sign: Health Care Power of Attorney, Legal Guardian appointment, or Next of Kin if authorized by State Law)

Name of Legal Representative (please print) — Date