Broad Consent

(This is a section of a consent form in which broad consent is obtained to use identifiable information in future research. This section should be incorporated into the consent form appropriate for the type of study in question. All bolded text should be removed before using.)

The following passage should be used when the researcher is obtaining broad consent as part of the primary study, in anticipation of using identifiable information in the future:

Sometimes the results of research studies give researchers ideas for other projects using that same information. [Name of investigator] would like the ability to use potentially identifiable information from this study in future projects if necessary. As part of my consent to participate in this study, I am allowing potentially identifiable information to be used in future projects. This does not apply to any future studies that use information without identifying details. The researchers will still take precautions to keep my information confidential, including removing information that could be used to identify me. [If applicable, include the following sentence:] I understand that if I refuse to allow this, I will not be able to participate in the study.

The following passage should be used when the researcher is obtaining broad consent as part of secondary research, after consent has already been obtained for the primary study and the researcher decides to pursue an additional research hypothesis:

Sometimes the results of research studies give researchers ideas for other projects using that same information. Previously, I participated in a study looking at [state general purpose of study]. [Name of investigator] would like the ability to use potentially identifiable information from that study in this new project. I do not need to provide any new information or do anything else to participate in this new study. I am only providing my consent for the researchers to use previously collected information with identifying details. The researchers will still take precautions to keep my information confidential, including removing information that could be used to identify me.