



Monday Morning Practice Pearls #60

What is the NIH Form 527-1?

The NIH Form 527-1 is a medical release form specifically for the release of clinical or research genetic test results. It is NOT an informed consent document.

Why is the NIH Form 527-1 needed?

Many of our protocols have genetic correlatives that are collected and analyzed in batches, versus real time. The samples may not be analyzed for 5 or 10 years. Once the analysis is completed, the results may indicate a clinically actionable incidental finding which requires follow-up. Because of this batch analysis, it could mean that your patient may have died or no longer have the capacity to receive the information. Even if next of kin is identified in CRIS, that may not be the patient's biologic family member where the information would have clinical relevance. The form enables the Cancer Genetics Consult service to follow up with the identified individual if the patient is deceased or lost capacity to receive the information.

When is the best time to get the NIH Form 527-1 signed?

This form should be completed prospectively. You should have the patient sign the NIH 527-1 release form when you are enrolling the patient on the protocol, at the time specimens for genetic correlatives are collected, or soon after.

Can I get just one NIH 527-1 form signed by the patient?

No. The form is protocol specific, so if enrolling a patient on more than 1 protocol that has genetic correlatives, the patient will need to sign multiple forms.

Where can I find the NIH 527-1 form and what do I do with it once signed?

The form is found on the HIMD [website](#) and does not expire once completed. Once signed, the form should be sent to HIMD for uploading in CRIS.