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General Comment

Meagan Shegstad December 25th 2009
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To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this letter to express that I fully support the goals of The Genetic information Nondiscrimination Act (GINA). Genetic information should it be used by insurance companies or employers to evaluate people's health risks. If an individual wants their health evaluated, they should see a Doctor and where the health risks should be assessed and treated and the results should remain confidential. It is my understanding that HRA's will be negatively impacted by a ruling in favor of GINA, however I am concerned that Genetic Information used in HRA's will head employees down a path that will eventually lead to discrimination and once in that direction it will be very hard to revert.

Employees rarely need DNA testing to tell them the history of their family's health problems nor is the family medical history relevant to health insurance companies, researchers and employers unless an individual consents, I do not believe that they're goals are in the best interest of the employees, but instead to benefit themselves. I do believe HRA's are valuable however I feel employees have the right to autonomy when it comes to such sensitive information as their genetic fingerprint and it should remain protected.

Sincerely,

Meagan Shegstad

Attachments

IRS-2008-0103-0055.1: Comment on FR Doc # E9-22512