****

<name>

<address>

<date>

Dear XXXXXXX,

We are writing to you today as you are currently enrolled as a patient participant in the BILAG BR study.

The BILAG BR study has recently undergone a change. This letter is to let you know about it, so that you can make an informed decision to accept (or not accept) the proposed change.

A new part of the BILAG BR study is looking into kidney involvement (lupus nephritis) in more detail. In order to do this, we wish to carry out tests on kidney tissue affected by lupus. We would like to find out whether the way in which genetic material (RNA) works in your kidneys affects how well you respond to your lupus treatment.

We are writing to you as you may have undergone a kidney biopsy in the past five years as part of your routine disease management and investigation. Any kidney tissue left over from your tests is routinely stored by your hospital in paraffin blocks. With your permission, we can use this tissue in our study.

**If you might be interested in allowing us to use your left over kidney tissue,** then please read the information sheet enclosed:

* ‘Participant information sheet for adults. Supplementary information - kidney sample’

Please take your time to read this information sheet carefully. Discuss it with friends, relatives or GP if you wish to. Take time to consider if you are happy to take part. Please give yourself time to think about the information – we recommend giving yourself at least 24 hours.

**Then if you feel you wish to be involved**, please complete the enclosed consent form and return two copies to us using the freepost envelope provided. Please keep one copy of the completed consent form for yourself.

Thank you for taking the time to consider our request.

<signature>

Study Coordinator, BILAG BR