Required Informed Consent Language for Studies Using MRI Procedures

For studies that include MRI research procedures, the language below must be inserted at the end of the “Potential Risks or Discomforts” section of the Informed Consent Form:

There is a possibility that the MRI scans taken as part of this research study will show an abnormality that we did not expect to see. This is called an "incidental finding." If the researchers suspect an incidental finding they may consult a radiologist. Depending on the nature of the incidental finding, the researchers may provide the radiologist with the scans (but will remove any identifying information to ensure participant privacy.) The participant will be informed of any incidental findings, as well as any context provided by the radiologist in the event they are consulted. Please be aware, however, that research staff are not trained medical doctors and may not have the skills to detect incidental findings and/or make diagnoses. Furthermore, the quality and types of MRI images that are taken as part of this study may not be sufficient to make clinical diagnoses. An incidental finding may be meaningless, but you may want to talk to a medical professional to find out. If there is an incidental finding and you decide to have further examinations, tests, and/or treatments, you and/or your insurer will be responsible for any costs of such examinations, tests, or treatments.