

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
REGENTS COMMUNICATION

ACTION REQUEST

Subject: Subcontract Agreement between the University of Michigan and Arbor Medical Innovations, LLC

Action Requested: Authorization to enter into Agreement

Preamble:

A statutory conflict of interest situation was identified by the Office of Research and Sponsored Projects while reviewing the Proposal Approval Form which then triggered a review by the Medical School Conflict of Interest Board and the UMOR Conflict of Interest Review Committee. A plan for management of the possible risks associated with the conflict of interest was then developed and approved by the Board and Committee and agreed to by the parties involved.

This proposed agreement (“Agreement”) falls under the State of Michigan Conflict of Interest Statute because Drs. Steven Harte and Grant Kruger are employees of the University of Michigan (“University”), and partial owners of Arbor Medical Innovations, LLC. The law permits such an Agreement provided it is disclosed to the Board of Regents (“Regents”) of the University of Michigan and approved in advance by a 2/3 vote.

Background:

Steven Harte, PhD, an Assistant Research Scientist in the Department of Anesthesiology, Medical School, and Grant Kruger, PhD, an Assistant Research Scientist in the Department of Mechanical Engineering, College of Engineering, are partial owners of a for-profit company called Arbor Medical Innovations, LLC (the “Company”). The Company wishes to fund a NIH (prime) STTR Phase I project entitled, “Quantitative Point-of-Care Autonomic and Sensory Measurement System for Next-Generation Pain Management” (ORSP #18-PAF03737) in the Department of Anesthesiology under the direction of Dr. Steven Harte. The purpose of this project is to provide clinicians an objective means of measuring pain-related perceptions and physiology at the point of care.

Agreement Terms:

The terms of the Agreement conform to University policy. The period of performance for the project is approximately one (1) year. The amount of funding support will not exceed \$69,972. Since research projects are often amended, this agreement includes provisions for changes in time and scope. University procedures for approval of these changes will be followed and additional conflict of interest review will be done as appropriate.

Impact of the Agreement:

The Agreement will support an effort by Dr. Harte to use his expertise and University laboratory, as well as other University resources, to develop new opioid therapy technology.

Recommendations:

This matter has been reviewed and approved by the Medical School Conflict of Interest Board and the UMOR Conflict of Interest Review Committee. In light of this disclosure and our finding that the Agreement was negotiated in conformance with standard University practices, I recommend that the Board of Regents approve the University's entering into this Agreement with Arbor Medical Innovations, LLC.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'S. Hu', is written above the typed name.

S. Jack Hu
Vice President for Research

February 2018