

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
REGENTS COMMUNICATION

ACTION REQUEST

Subject: Research Agreement between the University of Michigan and Kura Oncology, Inc.

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. A plan for management of the possible risks associated with the conflict of interest was then developed and approved by the Board and agreed to by the parties involved.

This proposed research agreement (“Agreement”) falls under the State of Michigan Conflict of Interest Statute because Professors Jolanta Grembecka and Tomasz Cierpicki are both employees of the University of Michigan (“University”), and partial owners of Kura Oncology, Inc. (“Kura”). 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:

Jolanta Grembecka, PhD, an Associate Professor in the Department of Pathology, and Tomasz Cierpicki, PhD, an Associate Professor in the Department of Pathology, are the partial owners of a for-profit company called Kura (the “Company”). The Company wishes to fund a project entitled “An Open Label Phase II Study of Tipifarnib in Advanced Non-Hematological Malignancies with HRAS Mutations” (ORSP #17-PAF04025) in the Department of Internal Medicine-Hematology and Oncology under the direction of Dr. Francis Worden. The purpose of this project is to determine the antitumor activity in terms of objective response rate (ORR) of tipifarnib in subjects with locally advanced unresectable or metastatic, relapsed and/or refractory, non-hematological malignancies with HRAS mutations.

Agreement Terms:

The terms of the Agreement conform to University policy. The period of performance for the project is approximately five (5) years. The amount of funding support will not exceed \$137,899. Since research projects are often amended, this agreement includes a provision 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. Francis Worden to use his expertise and University laboratory, as well as other University resources, to determine the antitumor activity in terms of ORR of tipifarnib in subjects with locally advanced unresectable or metastatic, relapsed and/or refractory, non-hematological malignancies with HRAS mutations.

Recommendations:

This matter has been reviewed and approved by the Medical School Conflict of Interest Board. 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 Kura Oncology, Inc.

Respectfully submitted,



S. Jack Hu
Vice President for Research

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