

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

REGENTS COMMUNICATION

Approved by the Regents

March 15, 2007

ACTION REQUEST

Subject: Subcontract Agreement between the University of Michigan and Arbor Research Collaborative for Health

Action Requested: Authorization to enter into the Agreement

Preamble:

A statutory conflict of interest situation was identified by the Division of Research Development and Administration while reviewing the proposed research agreement. This triggered a review by the Medical School Conflict of Interest Board. A plan for management of the possible risks associated with the conflicts of interest was then developed by the Board and agreed to by the parties involved.

The proposed research agreement (Agreement) falls under the State of Michigan Conflict of Interest Statute because Dr. Robert Wolfe is both an employee of the University of Michigan ("University") and Vice President of Arbor Research Collaborative for Health ("Arbor Research"). The law permits such an Agreement provided it is disclosed to the executive officers and approved in advance by a 2/3 vote of the Regents of the University of Michigan.

Background:

The University was recently awarded a contract from the Association of American Medical Colleges for a research project entitled National Kidney Disease Surveillance (NKIDDS) Initiative (F016415). The Principal Investigator for the project is Dr. Rajiv Saran, Associate Professor of Internal Medicine in the Medical School. Dr. Brenda Gillespie, Assistant Professor in the Department of Biostatistics, in the School of Public Health, is a Participating Investigator for the project. Dr. Robert Wolfe is a Professor in the Department of Biostatistics in the School of Public Health and will not be involved in this project in his capacity as a University employee.

Nature of the Agreement:

The project includes a subcontract from the University to Arbor Research Collaborative for Health for a portion of the work. The subcontract is for the provision of technical direction for research analyses, contribution of clinical input, and contribution to the development of reports and publications.

Agreement Terms:

This project is being incrementally funded. The total award anticipated being made to the University will be \$450,000 for the period October 1, 2006 through September 30, 2008, of which \$216,294 has been awarded for the period of

October 1, 2006 through September 30, 2007. An incrementally funded subcontract of approximately \$113,457 is planned to Arbor Research covering the period October 1, 2006 through September 30, 2008, of which \$55,890 will be funded for the period October 1, 2006 through September 30, 2007. The University's standard subcontract provisions will apply. Since research agreements are often amended, the subcontract includes provisions for changes in time, amount, 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 subcontract will permit the participation of Arbor Research, and therefore, will allow the University to meet the goals and objectives originally approved by the Association of American Medical Colleges.

Recommendation:

This matter has been reviewed and approved by the Medical School Conflict of Interest Board. In light of the disclosure made in this document and our finding that the Agreement was negotiated in conformance with standard University practices, I recommend that the Board of Regents approve the Subcontract Agreement between the University and Arbor Research Collaborative for Health.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Stephen R. Forrest". The signature is written in black ink and extends across the width of the page.

Stephen R. Forrest  
Vice President for Research

March 2007