

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
REGENTS COMMUNICATION

ACTION REQUEST

Subject: Research Agreement between the University of Michigan and GastroIntestinal Health Foundation

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 Professor William Chey is an employee of the University of Michigan (“University”), and a paid member of the Board of Trustees of the GastroIntestinal Health Foundation (GiHF). 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:

William Chey, MD, a Professor of Gastroenterology in the Department of Internal Medicine, is a paid member of the Board of Trustees of the GiHF (the “Foundation”). The Foundation wishes to fund a project entitled “GSID Patient Journey Screening and Survey” (ORSP #17-PAF00213) in the Department of Internal Medicine-Gastroenterology under the direction of Dr. William Chey. The purpose of this project is to better understand disease management of patients with diagnosed diarrhea-predominant irritable bowel syndrome (IBS-D) and Genetic sucrose-isomaltase deficiency (GSID), and to identify opportunities for improving the timely diagnosis and management of patients.

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 \$17,100. 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. Chey to use his expertise and University laboratory, as well as other University resources, to analyze patients with symptoms consistent with IBS-D who are being managed at academic or community gastroenterology practice settings in order to better understand disease management of patients with diagnosed IBS-D and GSID, and to identify opportunities for improving the timely diagnosis and management of patients.

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 the GastroIntestinal Health Foundation.

Respectfully submitted,



S. Jack Hu
Vice President for Research

March 2017