

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
REGENTS COMMUNICATION

ACTION REQUEST

Subject: Sponsored Activity Agreement between the University of Michigan and Lynx Dx, 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 sponsored activity agreement (“Agreement”) falls under the State of Michigan Conflict of Interest Statute because Professor Arul Chinnaiyan and Dr. Jeffrey Tosoian are employees of the University of Michigan (“University”), and partial owners of Lynx Dx, Inc. 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:

Arul Chinnaiyan, MD, PhD, a Professor in the Department of Pathology, and Jeffrey Tosoian, MD, MPH, a Clinical Lecturer in the Department of Urology, are partial owners of a for-profit company called Lynx Dx, Inc. (the “Company”). The Company wishes to fund a sponsored activity entitled “Procured in Hologic transport tubes for Javed” (ORSP # 20-PAF05408) in the Department of Urology under the direction of Dr. John Wei. The purpose of this agreement is to provide urine samples and lab results to Lynx Dx, Inc. for validation of a diagnostic test for prostate cancer.

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 \$28,785. Since 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. Wei to transfer samples to Lynx Dx, Inc. that will be used for technical validation and calibration.

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 Lynx Dx, Inc.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Rebecca Cunningham".

Rebecca Cunningham
Vice President for Research

May 2020