

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
REGENTS COMMUNICATION

ACTION REQUEST

Subject: License Agreement between the University of Michigan and MakeMedical LLC

Action Requested: Approval of License Agreement

Preamble:

A statutory conflict of interest situation was identified by the Office of Technology Transfer while reviewing the technology transfer agreement that 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 this Board and agreed to by the parties involved in this plan.

This proposed license agreement (“Agreement”) falls under the State of Michigan Conflict of Interest Statute because Professors Glenn Green, Kyle VanKoevering, and David Zopf are employees of the University of Michigan (“University”) and partial owners of MakeMedical 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:

Glenn Green, MD, a Professor in the Department of Otolaryngology, Kyle VanKoevering, MD, a Clinical Assistant Professor in the Department of Otolaryngology, and David Zopf, MD, an Assistant Professor in the Department of Otolaryngology, are partial owners of a for-profit company called MakeMedical LLC (the “Company”). The Company was formed recently to commercialize 3D-printed anatomical simulators and related components designed for medical education, and desires to license from the University of Michigan the University’s rights associated with the following technology:

UM OTT File No. 2020-384, entitled: “Systems and Components for Multi-Person Mechanical Ventilation Treatment” (Inventors: David Zopf, Glenn Green, Kyle Vankoevering)

The Office of Technology Transfer selected the Company as a University partner and negotiated the terms of the proposed Agreement in accordance with University policy and its accepted licensing principles.

Parties to the Agreement:

The Regents of the University of Michigan and MakeMedical LLC

Agreement Terms Include:

Agreement terms include granting the Company a nonexclusive license without the right to grant sublicenses. This agreement includes the provision that the University will be entitled to amend or terminate the agreement in the event that Regental approval is not obtained.

The University will retain ownership of the licensed technology and may continue to further develop it and use it internally. No use of University services or facilities, nor any assignment of University employees, is obligated or contemplated under the Agreement. Standard disclaimers of warranties and indemnification apply, and the Agreement may be amended by consent of the parties, such as adding related technology. University procedures for approval of these changes will be followed and additional conflict of interest review will be done as appropriate.

Pecuniary Interest:

The pecuniary interests of Drs. Green, VanKoevering, and Zopf arise from their ownership interests in MakeMedical LLC.

Net Effect:

The Office of Technology Transfer has negotiated and finalized the terms of a worldwide nonexclusive license agreement to patent rights, design files, molds, and other design documentation and associated derivative works related to UM OTT File No. 2020-384 for all fields of use. MakeMedical LLC will obtain use and commercialization rights to the above listed University technology.

Recommendations:

Due to the rapid spread of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) and time sensitive nature of this agreement to assist in the treatment and mitigation of the spread, the Vice President for Research has reviewed this agreement and her signature on this action request signifies provisional approval for the University to enter into the agreement prior to Regental approval. 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 Agreement between the University and MakeMedical LLC.

Respectfully submitted,



Rebecca Cunningham
Vice President for Research

May 2020