

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
REGENTS COMMUNICATION

ACTION REQUEST

Subject: Research Agreement between the University of Michigan and MeiraGTx Limited

Action Requested: Authorization to amend an 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 agreement (“Agreement”) falls under the State of Michigan Conflict of Interest Statute because Professor Robin Ali is an employee of the University of Michigan (“University”), and a partial owner of MeiraGTx Limited. 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:

Robin Ali, PhD, FMedScia, a Visiting Professor in the Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Science, is the Chief Scientific Officer and partial owner of MeiraGTx Limited (the “Company”). The Company wishes to amend a research agreement previously approved by the Regents on May 17, 2018 to include the proposal entitled, “Budget Amendment 1 – MGT001 – RPGR Natural History Study” (ORSP #19-PAF07812) in the Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences under the direction of Dr. Kanishka Jayasundera. The purpose of this amendment is to add funding for efforts in maze testing for U-M subjects and Mass Eye and Ear subjects (IRB approved), and the removal of genetic testing and fundus photography.

Agreement Terms:

The terms of the Amendment conform to University policy. The period of performance for the project is approximately six (6) years. The amount of funding support will be increased by \$489,258. 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 amended Agreement will provide continued support of an effort by Dr. Jayasundera to use his expertise and University laboratory, as well as other University resources, to perform detailed phenotyping of patients with RPGR mutations, and may help identify suitable patients for therapeutic intervention.

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 amending this Agreement with MeiraGTx Limited.

Respectfully submitted,



Rebecca Cunningham
Interim Vice President for Research

July 2019