

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
REGENTS COMMUNICATION

ACTION REQUEST

Subject: Option Agreement between the University of Michigan and Calcium Solutions, Inc.

Action Requested: Approval of Option 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 and the UMOR Conflict of Interest Review Committee. A plan for management of the possible risks associated with the conflict of interest was then developed and approved by this Board and Committee and agreed to by the parties involved in this plan.

This proposed option agreement (“Agreement”) falls under the State of Michigan Conflict of Interest Statute because Professor Hitinder Gurm and Dr. Robert Chisena are employees of the University of Michigan (“University”) and partial owners of Calcium Solutions, 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:

Hitinder Gurm, MBBS, a Professor in the Department of Internal Medicine – Cardiology, and Robert Chisena, PhD, a Research Fellow in the Department of Mechanical Engineering, are partial owners of a for-profit company called Calcium Solutions, Inc. (the “Company”). The Company was formed recently to commercialize a system to treat cardiovascular plaque and desires to option from the University of Michigan the University’s rights associated with the following technology:

UM OTT File No. 2018-265, entitled: “Harmonic Pressurized Balloon Angioplasty for Treatment of Calcified Vascular Lesions” (Inventors: Robert Chisena, Hitinder Gurm, Yihao Zheng, Albert Shih, Matthew Hildner)

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 Calcium Solutions, Inc.

Agreement Terms Include:

Agreement terms include granting the Company an option with the right to obtain an exclusive license. The Company will pay an option fee and reimburse ongoing patent costs.

The University will retain ownership of the optioned 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. Gurm and Chisena arise from their ownership interest in Calcium Solutions, Inc.

Net Effect:

The Office of Technology Transfer has negotiated and finalized the terms of an option agreement for patents related to UM OTT File No. 2018-265 for all fields of use. Calcium Solutions, Inc. will obtain rights to make, have made, or use the above listed University technology.

Recommendations:

This matter has been reviewed and approved by the Medical School Conflict of Interest Board and the UMOR Conflict of Interest Review Committee. 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 Calcium Solutions, Inc.

Respectfully submitted,



Rebecca Cunningham
Interim Vice President for Research

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