

ACTION REQUEST

Subject: License Agreement between the University of Michigan and Kura Oncology

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 Jolanta Grembecka and Tomasz Cierpicki are both employees of the University of Michigan (“University”) and partial owners of Kura Oncology. 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:

Jolanta Grembecka, PhD, an Assistant Professor in Pathology, and Tomasz Cierpicki, PhD, an Assistant Professor in Pathology, are the partial owners of a for-profit company called Kura Oncology (the “Company”). The Company was formed to commercialize a variety of therapeutic compounds and desires to license from the University of Michigan the University’s rights associated with the following technologies:

UM OTT File No. 4471, entitled: “Inhibitors of MLL Leukemia” (Jay Hess, Jolanta Grembecka, Tomasz Cierpicki)

UM OTT File No. 5643, entitled: “Compositions and Methods for Treatment of Leukemia” (Dmitry Borkin, Andrew Muntean, Duxin Sun, Jay Hess, Jolanta Grembecka, Tomasz Cierpicki)

UM OTT File No. 6393, entitled: “Thienopyrimidine and Thienopyridine Compounds and Methods of use Thereof” (Jonathan Pollack, Dmitry Borin, Jolanta Grembecka and Tomasz Cierpicki)

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 Kura Oncology.

Agreement Terms Include:

Agreement terms include granting the Company an exclusive license with the right to grant sublicenses. The Company will pay a royalty on sales and reimburse patent costs. The University may receive equity in the Company, along with the right to purchase more equity.

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. Grembecka and Cierpicki arise from their ownership interest in Kura Oncology.

Net Effect:

The Office of Technology Transfer has negotiated and finalized the terms of a worldwide exclusive license agreement for patents related to UM OTT File Nos. 4471, 5643 and 6393 for the fields of use of therapeutics. Kura Oncology will obtain use and commercialization rights to the above listed University technology.

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 Agreement between the University and Kura Oncology.

Respectfully submitted,



S. Jack Hu
Interim Vice President for Research

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