

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
REGENTS COMMUNICATION

ACTION REQUEST

Subject: Research Agreement between the University of Michigan and International Pelvic Pain Society

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 research agreement (“Agreement”) falls under the State of Michigan Conflict of Interest Statute because Professor Sawsan As-Sanie is an employee of the University of Michigan (“University”), and President of the International Pelvic Pain Society (“IPPS”). 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:

Sawsan As-Sanie, MD, an Associate Professor in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, is the President of a non-profit company called IPPS (the “Company”). The Company wishes to fund a project entitled “Cognitive Behavioral Therapy for Chronic Pelvic Pain” (ORSP #18-PAF02862) in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology under the direction of Dr. Sara Till. The purpose of this project is to study an internet-based cognitive behavioral therapy intervention in patients with chronic pelvic pain.

Agreement Terms:

The terms of the Agreement conform to University policy. The period of performance for the project is approximately two (2) years. The amount of funding support will not exceed \$10,000. 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 Agreement will support an effort by Dr. Sara Till to use her expertise and University laboratory, as well as other University resources, to develop effective, comprehensive non-pharmacologic therapies for patients with chronic pelvic pain.

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 the International Pelvic Pain Society.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'S. Hu', is positioned above the printed name.

S. Jack Hu
Vice President for Research

March 2018