

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
REGENTS COMMUNICATION

ACTION REQUEST

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

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 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 a for-profit company called MeiraGTx Limited (the “Company”). The Company wishes to fund a project entitled, “RPGR Natural History Study” (ORSP #18-PAF04415) in the Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Science, under the direction of Dr. Kanishka Jayasundera. The purpose of this study is to undertake a detailed prospective phenotypic study of the natural history of retinal dystrophy caused by mutations in the retinitis pigmentosa GTPase (RPGR) regulator gene.

Agreement Terms:

The terms of the Agreement conform to University policy. The period of performance for the project is approximately six (6) years. The amount of funding support will not exceed \$763,023. 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. 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 entering into this Agreement with MeiraGTx Limited.

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

May 2018