

ACTION REQUEST

Subject: Subcontract Agreement between the University of Michigan and Arbor Research Collaborative for Health

Action Requested: Authorization to enter into the Agreement

Preamble:

A statutory conflict of interest situation was identified by the Division of Research Development and Administration while reviewing the proposed research agreement. This triggered a review by the OVPR Conflict of Interest Review Committee. A plan for management of the possible risks associated with the conflicts of interest was then developed by the Committee and agreed to by the parties involved.

The proposed research agreement (Agreement) falls under the State of Michigan Conflict of Interest Statute because Dr. Robert Wolfe is both an employee of the University of Michigan ("University") and Vice President of Arbor Research Collaborative for Health ("Arbor Research"). The law permits such an Agreement provided it is disclosed to the executive officers and approved in advance by a 2/3 vote of the Regents of the University of Michigan.

Background:

The University was recently awarded a contract from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) for a research project entitled End-Stage Renal Disease (ESRD) Facility Data Reports for CMS, State and Facility Oversight. The Principal Investigator for the project is Dr. Douglas Schaubel, Assistant Professor in the Department of Biostatistics in the School of Public Health. Dr. Robert Wolfe, a Professor in the Department of Biostatistics, is a co-investigator on the project.

Nature of the Agreement:

The project includes a subcontract from the University to Arbor Research for a portion of the work. The subcontract is for participation in the Technical Expert Panel meetings. Arbor Research will provide expertise at these meetings related to the data included in the Transplant Reports produced by the Scientific Registry for Transplant Recipients (a federally funded research contract held by Arbor Research).

Agreement Terms:

The total award to the University will be \$1,956,866 for the period September 28, 2006 through September 27, 2011. A subcontract of approximately \$65,701 is planned to Arbor Research covering the period September 28, 2006 through

September 27, 2007. The University's standard subcontract provisions will apply. Since research agreements are often amended, the subcontract includes provisions for changes in time, amount, 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 subcontract will permit the participation of Arbor Research, and therefore, will allow the University to meet the goals and objectives originally approved by the CMS.

Recommendation:

This matter has been reviewed and approved by the OVPR Conflict of Interest Review Committee. In light of the disclosure made in this document and our finding that the Agreement was negotiated in conformance with standard University practices, I recommend that the Board of Regents approve the Subcontract Agreement between the University and Arbor Research Collaborative for Health.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Stephen R. Forrest", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Stephen R. Forrest  
Vice President for Research

November 2006