

May 13, 2015

2:00-4:00 p.m.



Conference call (888) 670-3525

Conference code 2922384719

Biomedical Research Advisory Council
Meeting Minutes

Biomedical Research Advisory Council members present:

- Daniel Armstrong, Ph.D., University of Miami, Chair
- Charles Wood, Ph.D., University of Florida
- Paul Jacobsen, Ph.D., Moffitt Cancer Center and Research Institute
- David Decker, M.D., Florida Hospital
- Al Latimer, B.B.A., Enterprise Florida, Inc.
- John Wingard, M.D., University of Florida
- Penny Ralston, Ph.D., Florida State University
- Randal Henderson, M.D., M.B.A., University of Florida
- Abubakr A Bajwa, M.D., F.C.C.P., University of Florida
- Stephen Gardell, Ph.D., Sanford-Burnham Medical Research Institute

DOH Staff

- Sarah Hofmeister, Public Health Research Unit
- Robert Hood, Ph.D., Public Health Research Unit

Members of the Public:

- None.

A quorum was present. The meeting was called to order at 2:05 p.m. Board members received all pertinent meeting materials. Board members participated via conference call and could actively and equally participate in the discussion.

I. Approval of Meeting Minutes

Dr. Wood made a motion to approve the December 16, 2014 and April 7, 2015 meeting minutes as presented. Dr. Wingard seconded the motion.

Total votes for approval: (Total members voting: 10) Affirmative: 10, Negative: 0, Recusal: 0

II. Overview of FY 2014/15 Refractory and Intractable Epilepsy Treatment and Research Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) and FY 2014/15 Appropriation

Staff provided an overview of the competition for the FY 14/15 Refractory and Intractable Epilepsy Treatment and Research Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) to members.

Statute requirements:

- An application for such funding may be submitted by any research university in the state that has obtained approval from the United States Food and Drug Administration for an

exploratory investigational new drug study of cannabidiol and its effect on intractable childhood epilepsy.

- The Biomedical Research Advisory Council shall advise the State Surgeon General as to the direction and scope of research of cannabidiol and its effect on intractable childhood epilepsy and the award of research funding.

FY 2014/2015 Appropriation:

- \$1,000,000
- Per statute: Appropriation is for research of cannabidiol and its effect on intractable childhood epilepsy.

FY 2014/2015 Competition:

- 1 Application submitted
- Requested amount: \$1,000,000
- Research Priority: Enhanced Access

III. FY 2014/15 Refractory and Intractable Epilepsy Treatment and Research FOA Funding Recommendations

Members were provided the peer review criteria and a blinded spreadsheet of the peer review results for the application before the meeting. The spreadsheet included the funding amount requested and scoring on significance, investigator, innovation, approach, environment, overall impact, intractable childhood epilepsy, health impact. The chair reviewed the results with the members.

Members asked program staff if peer reviewers provided any specific recommendations to be included if this proposal should be awarded. Staff reported to the council that per peer review comments, peer reviewers suggested it would be beneficial for the proposal to include a plan to provide resources to reduce the travel burden patients could incur while participating in the clinical trial.

Dr. Wingard made a motion to recommend funding the application at the requested amount and to require the researcher to submit a plan on how this grant may provide resources to reduce the travel burden patients could incur while participating in the clinical trial to the Department within 30 days of receipt of the award letter. Mr. Latimer seconded the motion.

Total votes for approval: (Total members voting: 10) Affirmative: 10 Negative: 0 Recusal: 0

IV. Public comment.

None.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:25 p.m.