



May 21, 2021

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Research Oversight Board Members

FROM: Hal F. Yee, Jr. M.D., Ph.D.   
Chief Deputy Director, Clinical Affairs  
Chair, Research Oversight Board

SUBJECT: **RESUMPTION STATEMENT: RESEARCH ACTIVITY AT LOS ANGELES COUNTY (LA COUNTY) DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES' (DHS) SITES**

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The COVID-19 pandemic continues to be a universally unprecedented event. For DHS, the challenges presented during the past 15 months have fortunately begun to dissipate and most delayed and routine care has begun to find a rhythm toward a Better Normal. As a result, the Research Oversight Board (ROB) has thoughtfully reconsidered the previously necessary research restrictions put in place to reserve resources and capacity based on feedback from their respective DHS facilities.

Effective immediately research activities at DHS sites can resume, **but only with prerequisite approvals from respective Facility Leadership and Investigational Review Boards, as well as sufficient prioritization as determined through the ROB process.** If you have any questions about these approvals and the prioritization process, please communicate with your facility ROB representative, Gary Garcia or me in the Office of Clinical Affairs.

As you should be aware, DHS is enthused about research that is methodologically well-designed and may reasonably be expected to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of clinical care and/or the delivery of health services without distracting from safe patient care. In designing/implementing studies, please keep in mind the following:

*"To advance the health of our patients and our communities by providing extraordinary care"*



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- (a) no county resources should be used that would distract or detract from clinical care, especially during this transition period
- (b) research should not interrupt clinical workflow

ROB Members are as follows:

- OVMC – Dr. Melinda Gibbons [mmaggard@dhs.lacounty.gov](mailto:mmaggard@dhs.lacounty.gov)
- HUMC – Dr. Ashkan Moazzez [amoazzez@dhs.lacounty.gov](mailto:amoazzez@dhs.lacounty.gov)
- RLA – Dr. Barry Jordan [bjordan@dhs.lacounty.gov](mailto:bjordan@dhs.lacounty.gov)
- LAC+USC – Dr. Amy Towfighi <https://lacounty.sharepoint.com/sites/dhs-lacusc-research>
- Ambulatory Care Network – Dr. Margarita Pereyda [mpereyda@dhs.lacounty.gov](mailto:mpereyda@dhs.lacounty.gov)
- Population Health – Dr. Jeff Guterman [jguterman@dhs.lacounty.gov](mailto:jguterman@dhs.lacounty.gov)

If you should have any questions, please let me know or you may contact Gary Garcia at [garygarcia@dhs.lacounty.gov](mailto:garygarcia@dhs.lacounty.gov).

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