### Waiver of the Informed Consent Process for Planned Emergency Research

- **The research** is **NOT** subject to regulation by a Common Rule agency other than Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) or Department of Defense (DOD).
- **The research** does **NOT** involve prisoners as subjects.
- **The research** does **NOT** involve pregnant subjects, fetuses, non-viable neonates, or neonates of uncertain viability.
- **The IRB** has reviewed and approved consent procedures and a consent document in accordance with OIA-314 WORKSHEET: Criteria for Approval and Additional Considerations, or equivalent.

**Provide protocol specific findings justifying this determination:**

- **The human subjects** are in a life-threatening situation.
- **Available treatments** are unproven or unsatisfactory.
- **The collection of valid scientific evidence**, which may include evidence obtained through randomized placebo-controlled investigations, is necessary to determine the safety and effectiveness of particular interventions.
- **Obtaining informed consent** is not feasible because the subjects will not be able to give their informed consent as a result of their medical condition.
- **Obtaining informed consent** is not feasible because the intervention under investigation must be administered before consent from the subjects' legally authorized representatives (LAR) is feasible.

**Provide protocol specific findings justifying this determination:**

- **Participation in the research** holds out the prospect of direct benefit to the subjects because they are facing a life-threatening situation that necessitates intervention.
- **Appropriate animal and other preclinical studies** have been conducted, and the information derived from those studies and related evidence support the potential for the intervention to provide a direct benefit to the individual subject.
- **Risks associated with the investigation** are reasonable in relation to what is known about the medical condition of the potential class of subjects, the risks and benefits of standard therapy, if any, and what is known about the risks and benefits of the proposed intervention or activity.

**Provide protocol specific findings justifying this determination:**

- **The research could not practically be carried out** without the waiver.
- **Additional protections of the rights and welfare of the subjects** will include consultation (including, where appropriate, consultation carried out by the IRB) with representatives of the communities in which the research will be conducted and from which the subjects will be drawn.

**Provide protocol specific findings justifying this determination:**

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1. 21 CFR 50.24
Provide protocol specific findings justifying this determination:
Additional protections of the rights and welfare of the subjects will include public disclosure of sufficient information following completion of the research to apprise the community and researchers of the study, including the demographic characteristics of the research population, and its results.

Provide protocol specific findings justifying this determination:
Additional protections of the rights and welfare of the subjects will include establishment of an independent data monitoring committee to exercise oversight of the research.

Provide protocol specific findings justifying this determination:
If obtaining informed consent is not feasible and an LAR is not reasonably available, the investigator has committed, if feasible, to attempting to contact, within the therapeutic window, the subject’s family member who is not an LAR, and asking whether he or she objects to the subject’s participation in the research. The investigator will summarize efforts made to contact family members and make this information available to the IRB at the time of continuing review.

Provide protocol specific findings justifying this determination:
Procedures are in place to inform, at the earliest feasible opportunity, each subject, or if the subject remains incapacitated, an LAR of the subject, or if such a representative is not reasonably available, a family member, of the subject’s inclusion in the research, the details of the investigation and other information contained in the informed consent document.

Provide protocol specific findings justifying this determination:
There is a procedure to inform the subject, or if the subject remains incapacitated, an LAR of the subject, or if such a representative is not reasonably available, a family member, that he or she may discontinue the subject’s participation at any time without penalty or loss of benefits to which the subject is otherwise entitled.

Provide protocol specific findings justifying this determination:
If an LAR or family member is told about the research and the subject’s condition improves, the subject is also to be informed as soon as feasible.

Provide protocol specific findings justifying this determination:
If a subject is entered into the research with waived consent and the subject dies before an LAR or family member can be contacted, information about the research is to be provided to the subject’s LAR or family member, if feasible.

Provide protocol specific findings justifying this determination:
The investigator will interpret “family member” to mean any one of the following legally competent persons: spouses; parents; children (including adopted children); brothers, sisters, and spouses of brothers and sisters; and any individual related by blood or affinity whose close association with the subject is the equivalent of a family relationship.

Provide protocol specific findings justifying this determination:
The IRB has reviewed and approved procedures and information to be used when providing an opportunity for a family member to object to a subject’s participation in the research consistent with this waiver.

Provide protocol specific findings justifying this determination:
If the research is Food and Drug Administration (FDA)-regulated, the protocol is being performed under a separate investigational new drug application (IND) or investigational device exemption (IDE) that clearly identifies this protocol as including subjects who are unable to consent. (“N/A” if not FDA-regulated)

If the research is FDA-regulated, a licensed physician who is a member of or consultant to the IRB and who is not otherwise participating in the research has concurred with the above findings. (“N/A” if not FDA-regulated)

If the research is subject to DOD regulations, the Secretary of Defense must approve a waiver of the advance informed consent provision of 10 USC 980.

If the research is NOT FDA-regulated, the research is not subject to regulations codified by the FDA at title 21 CFR part 50. (“N/A” if FDA-regulated)

If an IRB determines that it cannot approve a protocol because it does not meet the criteria in the exception or because of other relevant ethical concerns, the IRB must document its findings and provide these findings in writing promptly (within 30 days) to the investigator and the sponsor.