August 15, 2013

Dear Clinical Research Sponsor:

As an important sponsor for clinical research at the University of Southern California (USC), I'm writing to let you know about exciting changes in how we are supporting industry sponsored clinical trials.

On July 1, USC launched its new Clinical Trials Office (CTO) under the leadership of Soheil Jadali. Soheil joins us from UC Irvine, where he successfully implemented strategies to improve sponsor relations and the execution of agreements. At USC, Soheil is charged with helping USC expand innovative clinical care, and improve access to novel and promising therapies, by expediting clinical trials.

Soheil’s priorities include reducing the time to execute agreements by at least 50%. To help accomplish this goal, USC will be soon have a contract negotiator devoted to developing master agreements with our sponsors. In addition, USC has streamlined its processes for negotiating agreements, further empowering our negotiators. Our efforts in contracting will build from USC’s prior success in providing fast and efficient review of study protocols through our Institutional Review Board.

You may have also read about USC’s recent acquisition of the Verdugo Hills Hospital in Glendale. This addition expands USC’s Keck Medical Center on our Health Science Campus, our Norris Comprehensive Cancer Center, and our research and clinical programs at the LA County/USC Medical Center and the Children’s Hospital of Los Angeles. We serve an exceptionally diverse patient population through a full spectrum of medical specialties, and are investing to grow our biomedical research and clinical programs.

Last, USC is growing its cooperative research programs with industry. We are hiring new industry relations staff within our Stevens Center for Innovation, who will work with companies to develop biomedical research programs. We have also received an endowment to develop and test nano-medicine diagnostics and therapies through our Ming Hsieh Institute, and are supporting clinical and pre-clinical research through our Broad Center for Regenerative Medicine and Stem Cell Research and our Clinical and Translational Science Institute. Finally, we are greatly expanding our neuro imaging program through the recruitment of Art Toga and Paul Thompson and establishment of a world leading imaging program at USC.

USC is committed to work with our industry sponsors to research, test and implement therapies, technologies, diagnostics and programs that improve health. Please do not hesitate to contact me and let me know what we can do to provide exceptional service in the future as we work together to accomplish this goal. And, let us know if you are attending the October MAGI meeting in Las Vegas. Our staff would love to meet you.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Randolph Hall
Vice President, Research

Information on our clinical research programs can be found at:

https://research.usc.edu/clinical-trials-at-usc/