

MEETING MINUTES

Consortium for Medical Marijuana Clinical Outcomes Research: BOARD MEETING

Thursday, June 27th, 2022 at 1:00 pm (EST)

Remote Connection via Zoom

Board Members Present:

Martha S. Rosenthal
Roger B. Fillingim
Eric H. Holmes
Jacqueline Sagen
William Anderson
Dinender K. Singla
Charles A. Weatherford
Max C. E. Orezzaoli

Board Member Absent:

Ximena Levy

Attendees:

Almut G. Winterstein
Robert L. Cook
Amie J. Goodin
Jeevan Jyot
Sam McKee
Nicole Smolinski
Ruba Sajdeya
Sebastian Jugl

Opening Remarks

Dr. William Anderson, Chair of the Consortium Board, called the meeting to order at 1:03 PM, and welcomed all board members and presented the meeting agenda. Dr. Almut Winterstein was invited to provide the consortium funding update for 2022-23.

Consortium Funding Update

Dr. Almut Winterstein, Consortium Director, welcomed everyone and informed the board that the consortium will receive \$1.5M in funding for the 2022-23 fiscal year from the State and that a detailed budget will be presented to the board for approval at the next board meeting in late summer.

Discussion of Grant Proposal Scoring Method

Dr. Almut Winterstein shared that the consortium received 17 Letters of intent (LOI) in the current grants cycle and 16 LOIs were invited for full proposal submission. Of these only 15 proposals were submitted. These proposals were reviewed by ad-hoc out-of-state faculty reviewers with demonstrated expertise in the respective research areas.

Dr. William Anderson provided an overview of the scoring method which is similar to that followed by NIH, and recommended starting discussions with the level 2 applications for the two-year funding period and then discuss the level 1 proposals, proceeding in ascending order based on the average overall impact scores. Consortium faculty with any potential conflict of interest on these proposals were recused during the discussion of the respective proposal.

Review of Grant Proposals based on Reviewer Scores

Based upon the suggested approach, the individual proposals along with the reviewer comments were discussed in detail by the Consortium board. The board members also assessed each proposal's relevance to the Consortium's research mission, immediate clinical and/or demonstrable translational relevance to inform medical use of marijuana and outcomes of its use, as well as responsiveness to the Consortium research priorities.

The board ranked the proposals in order of funding priority and based upon available funding, the board agreed to fund two proposals for the two-year Level 2 support, and six proposals for the one-year level 1 support. Final decisions for funding seven proposals were made. For the final (8th) proposal short listed for level 1 funding, a final decision will be made based upon board review of response to reviewers concerns by the Principal Investigator of the proposal.

Vote on Grants Program

Dr. William Anderson asked for a final vote from board members regarding the discussed funding approach and motioned to vote, and Dr. Fillingim seconded the motion. All board members present voted in favor of funding the top 7 proposal and continuing the vote on the final proposal via email. No board member opposed the decision, and no board members abstained from voting. The funding decision was passed unanimously.

Public Comments

The Chair invited comments from the public and none were submitted.

Closing Remarks

Dr. Almut Winterstein summarized the meeting, and provided a brief overview of the topics for the next board meeting.

Adjournment

Dr. Anderson adjourned the meeting at 2:25 PM.