



CANCER PREVENTION & RESEARCH  
INSTITUTE OF TEXAS

**Oversight Committee Meeting Minutes  
August 19, 2020**

*NOTE: CPRIT conducted this meeting by videoconference in accordance with Texas Government Code Section 418.016. Governor Abbott suspended various provisions that require government officials and members of the public to be physically present at a specified meeting location. Unless the information is confidential, the reports, presentations, and grant award information referenced in the minutes are available at <http://ocmeetings.cprit.texas.gov> in the "Oversight Committee Board Packet" section for the corresponding meeting date.*

**Call to Order – Agenda Item 1**

A quorum being present, Presiding Officer Dee Margo called the Oversight Committee to order at 9:00 a.m.

**Roll Call/Excused Absences – Agenda Item 2**

Committee Members Present

David Cummings, M.D.

Ambrosio Hernandez, M.D.

Donald (Dee) Margo

Will Montgomery

Mahendra Patel, M.D.

Cindy Barberio Payne

Bill Rice, M.D.

Craig Rosenfeld, M.D.

**Adoption of Minutes from the May 20 and July 31, 2020 Meetings – Agenda Item 3 – Tab 1**

**MOTION:**

On a motion by Mr. Montgomery and seconded by Dr. Rice, the Oversight Committee unanimously voted to approve the minutes of the May 20 and July 31 Oversight Committee meetings as presented.

**Public Comment – Agenda Item 4**

Presiding Officer Margo recognized Cathleen McBurney to provide public comment on behalf of the American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network. Ms. McBurney recounted her experience as a head and neck cancer survivor and her experience as a cancer advocate. She emphasized the importance of cancer research for patients now, specifically crediting the research funded by CPRIT grant awards to MD Anderson for the study of proton radiation therapy - including a 2015 award to Dr. Jack Phan for a Phase I clinical trial of Stereotactic HYpofractionated RadioAblative (HYDRA) treatment of advanced laryngeal cancer - for her treatment.

Presiding Officer Margo recognized Bernice Joseph, Chief Operating Officer of The Rose, for public comment. Ms. Joseph spoke on the importance of CPRIT funding for women in Southeast Texas. The Rose, with CPRIT grant funding since 2010, has served 18,000 women in 41 counties throughout Southeast Texas. One-third of the women screened by The Rose through prevention projects supported by CPRIT received their first mammogram. Ms. Joseph emphasized how critical CPRIT support is to women throughout Texas, especially in the rural parts of the state.

### **Grantee Presentation – Agenda Item 5, Tab 2**

Presiding Officer Margo recognized Chief Prevention Officer Ramona Magid to introduce Dr. Rakhshanda Rahman, founding executive director of the multi-campus Breast Center of Excellence at Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center. Dr. Rakhshanda reported on her CPRIT-funded prevention projects.

An Oversight Committee member asked Dr. Rahman if she was coordinating with Dr. Shokar's project in El Paso. Dr. Rahman explained that the programs had communicated but that they used different database systems and did not coordinate.

In response to an Oversight Committee member's question, Dr. Rahman reported that she has been able to leverage the Medicaid 1115 waiver and DSRIP project funds to provide outreach and other services not funded by the CPRIT grants.

Responding to an Oversight Committee member's question about the unusually high mortality rate in Council of Government (COG) 7, Dr. Rahman explained that some of the causes may be lack of access to cancer prevention and control services. She noted that providers had not been coordinating care in this area but were now communicating to resolve the access issues.

### **Chief Executive Officer Report – Agenda Item 6, Tab 3**

Presiding Officer Margo recognized Chief Executive Officer Wayne Roberts to present the Chief Executive Officer's Report.

Mr. Roberts informed members that staff received Instructions for the Legislative Appropriations Request (LAR), which is due September 25, 2020. The staff will prepare CPRIT's LAR. Mr. Roberts reported on FY 2020 funds available for awards and updated members on CPRIT's response to COVID-19, including continued mandatory work from home and videoconference board meetings through at least the November meeting, unless directed otherwise by state leadership. Mr. Roberts noted that CPRIT records all COVID-19 grantee expenses and submits those expenses to the Governor's Office and Legislative Budget Board.

He ended his presentation with a brief discussion on preparations for FY 2022 program priorities and the CPRIT 2.0 planning process.

There were no questions.

**Chief Compliance Officer Report and Compliance Certification for the Proposed Grant Awards – Agenda Item 7, Tab 4**

Presiding Officer Margo recognized Chief Compliance Officer Vince Burgess to present the Compliance Report and Compliance Certification of Grant Award Process. Mr. Burgess updated members on the Compliance Program activities for the past quarter. Mr. Burgess presented the FY 2021 Grantee Risk Assessment.

An Oversight Committee member asked Mr. Burgess if the risk assessment was the same one provided by the internal auditors. Mr. Burgess explained that this is an independent assessment.

An Oversight Committee member asked Mr. Burgess why the assessment seems to rank academic institutions priority 3 versus Product Development grantees ranked priority 1. Mr. Burgess explained that academic institutions are often more mature and have robust processes and policies/procedures in place versus a new Product Development grantee company.

Mr. Burgess also certified that the review process and proposed awards academic research, prevention, and product development research grant awards presented for the Oversight Committee’s consideration complied with all applicable state and agency requirements.

**Chief Scientific Officer Report and Grant Award Recommendations – Agenda Item 8, Tab 5**

Presiding Officer Margo recognized Chief Scientific Officer Dr. Jim Willson to provide his report on the academic research program and present the award recommendations. Dr. Willson referred members to page 8 of the Proposed Grant Award booklet and presented the academic research award slates recommended by the Scientific Review Council (SRC) and the Program Integration Committee (PIC). The 52 awards totaling \$75,298,095 result from 10 grant mechanisms issued for FY 2020 review cycles 20.1, 20.2 and recruitment cycles 20.10, 20.11 and 20.12.

Dr. Willson noted that the recommendations for the Oversight Committee’s approval included thirteen applications from cycle 20.1 that the PIC previously deferred putting forward for consideration pending sufficient funding.

**Academic Research FY20.2 Recommendations**

| Rank | ID       | Award* | Score | Title   | PI            | PI Organization                                     | Budget      |
|------|----------|--------|-------|---|---------------|---|-------------|
| 1    | RP200668 | CFSA   | 1.1   | The Combinatorial Drug Discovery Program (CDDP)   | Davies, Peter | Texas A&M University System Health Science Center   | \$3,989,892 |
| 2    | RP200554 | CAP-RA | 1.2   | A Novel Risk Stratification and Early Detection Strategy to Reduce Liver Cancer Mortality | Singal, Amit  | The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center | \$2,499,995 |

| Rank | ID       | Award*  | Score | Title  | PI                       | PI Organization                                      | Budget      |
|------|----------|---------|-------|--|--------------------------|--|-------------|
| 3    | RP200584 | ECI     | 1.4   | CPRIT Early-Career Clinical Investigator Award for Applicant: Premal Lulla, MD   | Dickinson, Mary          | Baylor College of Medicine                           | \$1,500,000 |
| 4    | RP200619 | CFSA    | 1.8   | CPRIT RNA Therapeutics Core  | Cooke, John              | The Methodist Hospital Research Institute            | \$3,999,995 |
| 5    | RP200549 | ECI     | 1.8   | Enhancing Neoantigen Expression and Immune Checkpoint Inhibitor Response Using Splicing Modulators in Hepatocellular Carcinoma | Arteaga, Carlos          | The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center  | \$1,499,998 |
| 6    | RP200669 | ECI     | 1.8   | CPRIT Early Clinical Investigator Award: Chad Tang   | Draetta, Gulio           | The University of Texas M. D. Anderson Cancer Center | \$1,499,996 |
| 7    | RP200532 | HIHRRRA | 1.9   | Targeted Proteolysis of Glucocorticoid Receptor (GR) as a Therapeutic Strategy to Enhance Antitumor Immunity                   | Lissanu Deribe, Yonathan | The University of Texas M. D. Anderson Cancer Center | \$249,992   |
| 8    | RP200604 | HIHRRRA | 2.0   | Targeting Plasma Membrane Spatial Dynamics to Suppress Obesity-Induced Colon Cancer  | Chapkin, Robert          | Texas AgriLife Research                              | \$250,000   |
| 9    | RP200520 | HIHRRRA | 2.1   | Developing Single-Cell RNAseq-Based Genetic Screens to Identify Novel Targets for Cancer Immunotherapy                         | Peng, Weiyi              | University of Houston                                | \$250,000   |

| Rank | ID       | Award* | Score | Title   | PI              | PI Organization                                      | Budget      |
|------|----------|--------|-------|---|-----------------|--|-------------|
| 10   | RP200573 | HIHRA  | 2.2   | Low-Cost Nonconventional Ultralow-Field MRI Scanner for the Next-Generation MR-Guided Radiation Therapy                   | Jia, Xun        | The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center  | \$250,000   |
| 11   | RP200504 | CFSA   | 2.3   | Comprehensive Cancer Epigenomics Core Facility  | Chen, Rui       | Baylor College of Medicine                           | \$3,999,943 |
| 12   | RP200670 | ECI    | 2.5   | Early Clinical Investigator Award: Nicolas Palaskas   | Draetta, Gulio  | The University of Texas M. D. Anderson Cancer Center | \$1,491,551 |
| 13   | RP200614 | HIHRA  | 2.5   | Novel Betabody-Drug Conjugates Targeting Phosphatidylserine for the Selective Delivery of Potent, Small-Molecule Payloads | Pinney, Kevin   | Baylor University                                    | \$250,000   |
| 14   | RP200655 | HIHRA  | 2.5   | A Novel Organoid Platform to Modulate Human Neural Networks Integrated With Glioblastoma Stem Cells                       | Krencik, Robert | The Methodist Hospital Research Institute            | \$249,372   |
| 15   | RP200574 | HIHRA  | 2.6   | Targeting B Cells to Enhance Responses to Immune Checkpoint Blockade  | Wargo, Jennifer | The University of Texas M. D. Anderson Cancer Center | \$249,755   |
| 16   | RP200509 | HIHRA  | 2.7   | Genome-Wide DNA Methylation Markers for Predicting the Risk of Liver Cancer in Nonalcoholic Fatty Livers                  | Tsai, Robert    | Texas A&M University System Health Science Center    | \$250,000   |
| 17   | RP200595 | HIHRA  | 2.7   | SERBP1, Epigenetic Regulation and   | Penalva, Luiz   | The University of Texas Health Science               | \$249,968   |

| Rank | ID       | Award*  | Score | Title   | PI                 | PI Organization  | Budget      |
|------|----------|---------|-------|---|--------------------|--|-------------|
|      |          |         |       | Glioblastoma Targeting  |                    | Center at San Antonio                                    |             |
| 18   | RP200633 | CAP-RA  | 2.8   | Reducing Disparities in the Risk of Hepatocellular Cancer   | Kanwal, Fasiha     | Baylor College of Medicine                               | \$2,434,495 |
| 19   | RP200537 | CAP-RA  | 2.9   | Genetic Epidemiology of Hepatocellular Carcinoma in Hispanics   | Thrift, Aaron      | Baylor College of Medicine                               | \$2,473,314 |
| 20   | RP200657 | HIHRRRA | 2.9   | Screening for Melanoma Genes Using Natural Hybrid Incompatibilities   | Schartl, Manfred   | Texas State University - San Marcos                      | \$248,458   |
| 21   | RP200617 | HIHRRRA | 2.9   | Pathological Role of Neuronal Cell Cycle Reentry in the Development of Chemotherapy-Induced Peripheral Neuropathy | Lee, Hyoung-gon    | The University of Texas at San Antonio                   | \$250,000   |
| 22   | RP200650 | HIHRRRA | 2.9   | Characterization of Salmonella Tumor-Targeting Mechanisms and Oncolytic Potential                                 | Kenney, Linda      | The University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston      | \$250,000   |
| 23   | RP200612 | HIHRRRA | 3.1   | Elucidating Premetastatic Niches at Single-Cell Resolution  | Giancotti, Filippo | The University of Texas M. D. Anderson Cancer Center     | \$249,996   |
| 24   | RP200620 | HIHRRRA | 3.2   | Targeting Fatty Acid Synthesis in NAFLD-Related HCC   | Dong, Bingning     | Baylor College of Medicine                               | \$250,000   |
| 25   | RP200615 | HIHRRRA | 3.4   | Small RNA Nanovector-Based Targeted Immunotherapy for Glioblastoma  | Lee, Tae Jin       | The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston | \$250,000   |



| Rank | ID       | Award*  | Score | Title  | PI               | PI Organization  | Budget      |
|------|----------|---------|-------|--|------------------|--|-------------|
| 26   | RP200572 | CFSA    | 3.6   | From Whole-Animal Imaging to Superresolution Microscopy: An Imaging Core for the TTUHSC Campus at Amarillo   | Bickel, Ulrich   | Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center             | \$2,831,213 |
| 27   | RP200593 | HIHRRRA | 3.6   | High-Throughput Nondestructive Enumeration and Characterization of CTCs in Whole Blood by a Thin Film "Tactile" Microfluidics and Holographic Interferometry | Sheng, Jian      | Texas A&M University - Corpus Christi                    | \$247,703   |
| 28   | RP200526 | HIHRRRA | 3.7   | Development of Artificial Intelligence Framework for Assessment of Responses to Treatment and Automated Tumor Volume Measurement in Glioblastoma             | Zhu, Jay-Jiguang | The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston | \$249,794   |

HIHRRRA – High Impact/High Risk Research Award, ECI – Early Clinical Investigator, CFSA – Core Facility Support Award, CAP-RA - Collaborative Action Program to Reduce Liver Cancer Mortality in Texas: Investigator-Initiated Research Awards

#### **FY20.1 PIC Deferred Applications**

| ID       | Award* | Score | Application Title   | PI             | PI Organization  | Budget    |
|----------|--------|-------|---|----------------|--|-----------|
| RP200472 | IIRA   | 2.8   | Rational Combination Therapy for Aggressive Double-Hit Lymphoma | Li, Yulin      | The Methodist Hospital Research Institute                    | \$899,985 |
| RP200464 | IIRA   | 2.8   | Arming an Oncolytic Herpes Simplex Virus to “BiTE” Tumor Cells  | Zhang, Xiaoliu | University of Houston  | \$702,581 |
| RP200242 | IIRA   | 2.9   | Role of HOTTIP lncRNA in Leukemogenesis                         | Mingjiang Xu   | The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio | \$900,000 |
| RP200254 | IIRA   | 2.9   | Interrogating the Senescence-Associated Secretory Phenotype     | Tanya Paull    | The University of Texas at Austin                            | \$754,398 |

| ID       | Award*  | Score | Application Title   | PI                | PI Organization  | Budget      |
|----------|---------|-------|---|-------------------|--|-------------|
|          |         |       | and Its Dependence on the ATM Protein Kinase  |                   |  |             |
| RP200392 | IIRACT  | 2.9   | Harnessing Aurora Kinase Inhibition–Induced Cell Death to Enhance Immunotherapy in HPV-Driven Cancers                     | Jagannadha Sastry | The University of Texas M. D. Anderson Cancer Center         | \$1,199,997 |
| RP200327 | IIRA    | 3.0   | Immune Checkpoint Regulation by the Integrated Stress Response Pathway in Lung Cancer                                     | Kathryn O'Donnell | The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center          | \$900,000   |
| RP200058 | IIRACCA | 3.0   | Enhancing Cytarabine Response Through SAMHD1 Inhibition   | Dmitri Ivanov     | The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio | \$1,198,659 |
| RP200383 | IIRAP   | 3.0   | Improving Risk Prediction for Li-Fraumeni Syndrome: A Practical Tool for Clinical Health Care Providers                   | Banu Arun         | The University of Texas M. D. Anderson Cancer Center         | \$896,896   |
| RP200135 | IIRACCA | 3.0   | Targeting the CXCL10-CXCR3 Axis in Metastatic Osteosarcoma  | Tsz-Kwong Man     | Baylor College of Medicine                                   | \$1,200,000 |
| RP200385 | IIRA    | 3.0   | Predicting Response and Improving Efficacy of CAR T-cell Therapy in DLBCL   | Linghua Wang      | The University of Texas M. D. Anderson Cancer Center         | \$899,020   |
| RP200166 | IIRA    | 3.1   | Targeted Inhibition of Autophagy for Treatment of Dormant Ovarian Cancer  | Steven Millward   | The University of Texas M. D. Anderson Cancer Center         | \$900,000   |
| RP200240 | IIRA    | 3.1   | A Hippo Pathway–Sensitized Genetic Screen for Regulators of Yap/Taz-Driven Hepatocellular Carcinoma                       | Randy Johnson     | The University of Texas M. D. Anderson Cancer Center         | \$899,999   |
| RP200025 | IIRAP   | 3.1   | Establishment of a Prospective Cohort at Risk for HPV-Related Cancers: Using HPV Testing at Mucosal Sites and Blood-Based | Erich Sturgis     | The University of Texas M. D. Anderson Cancer Center         | \$1,483,470 |



| ID | Award* | Score | Application Title                     | PI | PI Organization | Budget |
|----|--------|-------|---------------------------------------|----|-----------------|--------|
|    |        |       | Assays for Risk Stratification in Men |    |                 |        |

\* IIRA – Individual Investigator Research Award, IIRAP – Individual Investigator Research Award for Prevention and Early Detection, IIRACCA – Individual Investigator Research Award for Cancer in Children and Adolescents, IIRACT – Individual Investigator Research Award for Clinical Translation

### Recruitment Cycle FY 20.10, 20.11 and 20.12 Recommendations

| Rank | ID       | Award * | Score | Candidate         | Organization   | Budget      |
|------|----------|---------|-------|-------------------|--|-------------|
| 1    | RR200079 | RFTFM   | 1.0   | Di Stefano, Bruno | Baylor College of Medicine                                   | \$2,000,000 |
| 2    | RR200080 | RFTFM   | 1.0   | Huang, Pengxiang  | Baylor College of Medicine                                   | \$2,000,000 |
| 3    | RR200084 | RFTFM   | 1.0   | Zeng, Xing        | The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center          | \$2,000,000 |
| 4    | RR200076 | RFTFM   | 1.0   | Pillon, Monica    | Baylor College of Medicine                                   | \$2,000,000 |
| 5    | RR200095 | RFTFM   | 1.0   | Chen, Jin         | The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center          | \$2,000,000 |
| 6    | RR200093 | REI     | 1.0   | Pollard, Jeffrey  | The Methodist Hospital Research Institute                    | \$5,997,660 |
| 7    | RR200090 | RFTFM   | 1.3   | Gruber, Joshua    | The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center          | \$2,000,000 |
| 8    | RR200063 | RFTFM   | 2.0   | Li, Hongjie       | Baylor College of Medicine                                   | \$2,000,000 |
| 9    | RR200089 | RFTFM   | 2.0   | Zhao, Peng        | The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio | \$2,000,000 |
| 10   | RR200108 | RFTFM   | 2.0   | Sandstrom, Andrew | The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center          | \$2,000,000 |
| 11   | RR200112 | REI     | 2.0   | Gius, David       | The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio | \$6,000,000 |

\*REI - Recruitment of Established Investigators, RFTFM - Recruitment of First-Time Tenure Track Faculty Members

### Compliance Certification

Presiding Officer Margo reminded members that Mr. Burgess previously certified compliance of the academic research awards process.

### Conflict of Interest Notification

Presiding Officer Margo noted for the record that no Oversight Committee member reported a conflict of interest with any proposed academic research awards.

Approval Process – Academic Research Awards

After no Oversight Committee member objected to considering the 10 slates in one vote, Presiding Officer Margo called for a vote on the 52 academic research awards recommended by the PIC.

**MOTION:**

On a motion made by Dr. Rice and seconded by Dr. Patel, the Oversight Committee members voted unanimously to approve the PIC’s recommendations for the 10 academic research award slates.

**MOTION:**

On a motion made by Dr. Rice and seconded by Mr. Montgomery, the Oversight Committee members voted to approve the delegation of contract negotiation authority to CPRIT’s CEO and staff and authorized the CEO to sign the contracts on behalf of CPRIT.

Award Supplementation for RP160015

Dr. Willson presented the proposed award supplement of \$172,601 for CPRIT award RP160015.

**MOTION:**

On a motion made by Dr. Rice and seconded by Mr. Montgomery, the Oversight Committee members voted unanimously to approve an award supplement not to exceed \$172,601 for CPRIT grant award RP160015.

**Chief Prevention Officer Report and Grant Award Recommendations – Agenda Item 9, Tab 6**

Presiding Officer Margo recognized Ms. Magid to present the Chief Prevention Officer’s Report. Ms. Magid updated members on the Prevention Program activities before presenting the eight prevention program projects totaling \$14,063,333 that the Prevention Review Council and PIC recommended for awards. Ms. Magid reported that all the recommended applications address one or more of the Prevention Program activities.

**Prevention Program Cycle FY2020 Cycle 2 Recommended Awards**

| Rank | ID       | Award* | Score | Application Title  | PI              | PI Organization                                     | Budget      |
|------|----------|--------|-------|--|-----------------|---|-------------|
| 1    | PP200048 | EPS    | 2.0   | Expanding a successful postpartum HPV vaccination project to women in the Rio Grande Valley              | Abbey Berenson  | The University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston | \$1,999,991 |
| 2    | PP200066 | EPS    | 2.0   | Expanding Mailed Stool Test-Based Colorectal Cancer Screening in Vulnerable Populations in Central Texas | Michael Pignone | The University of Texas at Austin                   | \$1,999,227 |

| Rank | ID       | Award* | Score | Application Title  | PI                | PI Organization                                     | Budget      |
|------|----------|--------|-------|--|-------------------|---|-------------|
| 3    | PP200064 | EPS    | 2.1   | A Regional Expansion of Cervical Cancer Screening and Patient Navigation in North Texas (E-XSPAN)  | Keith Argenbright | The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center | \$1,999,996 |
| 4    | PP200075 | EPS    | 2.1   | Establish a Comprehensive Cancer Prevention and Support Program among Asian-American Communities in Houston, Dallas/Fort Worth and Austin Areas of Texas | Helen Sun         | Light and Salt Association                          | \$1,467,728 |
| 5    | PP200057 | EPS    | 2.2   | School-based Human Papillomavirus Vaccination Program in the Rio Grande Valley: Continuation and Expansion in Starr, Zapata, and Jim Hogg County         | Ana Rodriguez     | The University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston | \$1,993,140 |
| 6    | PP200071 | TCL    | 2.6   | Promoting access to maternal smoking cessation and smoke-free home services among low-income rural pregnant women and their household smokers            | Lei-Shih Chen     | Texas A&M University                                | \$1,000,000 |
| 7    | PP200070 | EPS    | 3.1   | EXPANSION OF TEXAS A&M'S CANCER PREVENTION PROGRAM TO RURAL AND MEDICALLY UNDERSERVED WOMEN  | Anna Lichorad     | Texas A&M University System Health Science Center   | \$1,656,478 |
| 8    | PP200068 | EPS    | 3.4   | Expanding Colorectal Cancer Prevention and Education Through Community-Based Outreach and Information Technology   | Luis Rustveld     | Baylor College of Medicine                          | \$1,947,073 |

\* EPS – Expansion of Cancer Prevention Services to Rural and Medically Underserved Populations, TCL – Tobacco Control and Lung Cancer Screening

There were no questions for Ms. Magid.

#### Compliance Certification

Presiding Officer Margo reminded members that Mr. Burgess previously certified compliance of the prevention awards process.

#### Conflict of Interest Notification

Presiding Officer Margo noted for the record that no Oversight Committee member reported a conflict of interest with any of the proposed prevention awards.

#### Approval Process – Prevention Grant Awards

After no member of the Oversight Committee objected to considering the two slates together, Presiding Officer Margo called for a vote on the eight proposed award recommendations.

#### **MOTION:**

On a motion made by Dr. Rice and seconded by Dr. Cummings, the Oversight Committee unanimously voted to approve the PIC's recommendation for the eight prevention awards.

#### **MOTION:**

On a motion made by Mr. Montgomery and seconded by Dr. Rice, the Oversight Committee unanimously voted to approve the delegation of contract negotiation authority to CPRIT's CEO and authorized the CEO to sign the contracts on behalf of CPRIT.

#### Award Supplementation for RP170094

Ms. Magid presented a request for a \$125,000 award supplement for CPRIT award PP170094.

#### **MOTION:**

On a motion made by Dr. Rice and seconded by Mr. Montgomery, the Oversight Committee unanimously voted to approve an award supplement not to exceed \$125,000 for CPRIT grant award PP170094.

#### **Chief Product Development Officer Report and Award Recommendations – Agenda Item 10, Tab 7**

Presiding Officer Margo recognized Chief Product Development Officer Dr. Cindy WalkerPeach to present the proposed product development research award recommendations and to provide an update on the product development program.

Dr. WalkerPeach updated the Oversight Committee regarding the anticipated timeline for release of requests for applications for the upcoming FY 2021 application cycle.

Dr. WalkerPeach presented the PIC's two product development award recommendations and award

contingencies for review cycle 20.2, totaling \$25,421,133: ImmunoGenesis, Inc. and OncoNano Medicine, Inc.

**Product Development Research FY20.2 Recommendations**

| Rank | ID       | Award         | Score | Company Name        | Project   | Budget        |
|------|----------|---------------|-------|---------------------|---|---------------|
| 1    | DP200081 | Texas Company | 2.1   | OncoNano Medicine   | Image-guided Surgical Detection of Metastatic Disease to the Peritoneum, Lymph Nodes and Pleural Surfaces | \$ 9,965,273  |
| 2    | DP200094 | Texas Company | 2.4   | ImmunoGenesis, Inc. | Cytoreductive bispecific PD-L1/PD-L2 antibodies active across immune hot and cold cancers                 | \$ 15,455,860 |

Compliance Certification

Presiding Officer Margo reminded members that Mr. Burgess previously certified compliance of the product development awards process.

Conflict of Interest Notification

Presiding Officer Margo noted for the record that no Oversight Committee member reported a conflict of interest with the two proposed product development awards.

Approval Process – Product Development Research Awards

**MOTION:**

On a motion made by Mr. Montgomery and seconded by Dr. Rice, the Oversight Committee unanimously voted to approve the PIC’s recommendations for the two applications totaling \$25,421,133 in award funding.

**MOTION:**

On a motion made by Dr. Rice and seconded by Mr. Montgomery, the Oversight Committee unanimously voted to approve the delegation of contract negotiation authority to CPRIT’s CEO and staff and authorized the CEO to sign the contracts on behalf of CPRIT.

**MOTION:**

On a motion made by Dr. Rice and seconded by Mr. Montgomery, the Oversight Committee unanimously voted to approve the disbursement of grant funds via advance payments to the two companies approved for awards upon execution of the award contracts and the successful completion of tranches.

**Resolution Transferring Management Authority to the Texas Treasury Safekeeping Trust Company – Agenda Item 11, Tab 8**

Dr. WalkerPeach presented CPRIT’s recommendation to explore non-standard revenue-sharing

options for CPRIT’s overall investment in OncoNano Medicine, Inc., explaining that this is the first time CPRIT has approved three product development awards for the same company.

Mr. Roberts recommended using the Texas Treasury Safekeeping Trust Company to assist CPRIT in negotiations with OncoNano Medicine pursuant to the authority in Texas Health & Safety Code § 102.256. He explained the proposed resolution authorizing the transfer of management and disposition authority to the Texas Treasury Safekeeping Trust Company and the payment of a fee for management of the asset.

**MOTION:**

On a motion made by Dr. Rosenfeld and seconded by Dr. Cummings, the Oversight Committee unanimously voted to approve the resolution transferring management and disposition authority for OncoNano Medicine to the Texas Treasury Safekeeping Trust Company and for the payment of a fee.

**Internal Auditor Report – Agenda Item 12, Tab 9**

Presiding Officer Margo recognized Dan Graves, a partner with Weaver & Tidwell, CPRIT’s internal audit contractor. Mr. Graves updated the members on status of current internal audit activities. He noted that Weaver closed the *Internal Audit Follow-Up Procedures over State Reporting* and reported that CPRIT had fully remediated the findings from the original audit. He explained that issues arising from the COVID-19 pandemic delayed several audits when the agency converted to full-time telework.

Mr. Graves presented a summary of the FY 2021 and 2022 internal audit plans. He also noted that the State Auditor’s Office (SAO) issued guidance for the FY 2020 annual internal audit report on August 13. He indicated that Weaver would present the report at the next Oversight Committee meeting. CPRIT will submit it to the SAO, Legislative Budget Board and Governor’s Office in November.

**MOTION:**

On a motion made by Mr. Montgomery and seconded by Dr. Rice, the Oversight Committee unanimously voted to approve the *Internal Audit Follow-Up Procedures Report over State Reporting*.

**MOTION:**

On a motion made by Dr. Cummings and seconded by Dr. Rice, the Oversight Committee unanimously voted to approve the FY 2021 Internal Audit Plan.

**Scientific Research and Prevention Program Committee Appointments – Item 13, Tab 10**

Presiding Officer Margo recognized Mr. Roberts to discuss his appointment of Clark Chen, Ph.D., M.D., to CPRIT’s Scientific Research and Prevention Program Committees.



**MOTION:**

On a motion made by Dr. Rice and seconded by Mr. Montgomery, the Oversight Committee unanimously voted to approve the appointment of Dr. Chen to CPRIT's Scientific Research and Prevention Program Committees.

**FY 2021 Honoraria Policy - Agenda Item 14, Tab 11**

Presiding Officer Margo recognized Mr. Roberts to present CPRIT's FY 2021 Honoraria Policy. Mr. Roberts explained that CPRIT revised the FY 2021 honoraria policy to reflect the workload changes for Review Council members due to the continuing effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. Although the proposed FY 2021 honoraria payment structure remains the same as approved for FY 2020, he noted that CPRIT projects an estimated \$500,000 reduction in overall peer review costs in FY 2021 due to the Academic Research and Product Development Research programs each holding one cycle of review instead of two cycles.

**MOTION:**

On a motion made by Dr. Rosenfeld and seconded by Mr. Montgomery, the Oversight Committee unanimously voted to approve CPRIT's FY 2021 Honoraria Policy.

**Health & Safety Code Section 102.1062 Waivers – Agenda Item 15, Tab 12**

Presiding Officer Margo recognized Mr. Roberts to present the Health & Safety Code § 102.1062 waivers. He presented four proposed waivers for FY 2021 for Don Brandy, Dr. John Hellerstedt, Dr. Jim Willson, and a standing waiver for review council members under the specific circumstances described in the waiver. Mr. Roberts explained that the waivers are the same as ones previously approved by the Oversight Committee for FY 2020.

**MOTION:**

On a motion made by Dr. Rice and seconded by Mr. Montgomery, the Oversight Committee unanimously voted to approve the four proposed Health and Safety Code Section 102.1062 waivers.

**Amendments to 25 T.A.C. Chapter 703 – Item 18, Tab 14**

Presiding Officer Margo recognized CPRIT assistant general counsel Cameron Eckel to present the proposed rule change. Ms. Eckel reviewed the proposed rule change relating to budget transfer and change requests by grantees.

**MOTION:**

On a motion by Dr. Rice and seconded by Mr. Montgomery, the Oversight Committee unanimously voted to approve the publication of the proposed change to Texas Administrative Code Chapter 703 in the *Texas Register*.

**Chief Operating Officer Report – Agenda Item 17, Tab 14**

Presiding Officer Margo recognized Chief Operating Officer Heidi McConnell to present the Chief Operating Officer's Report. Ms. McConnell reviewed the FY 2021 operating budget and explained

the \$2.5 million transfer to move money from the Award Research Grants budget line item to the Grant Review and Award Operations budget line item to support the FY 2021 \$2 million increase to the budgeted base grant management support contract with GDIT, ongoing increased honoraria costs for the peer review councils, and an interagency contract with the Texas Treasury Safekeeping Trust Company for grant asset management services. She noted that the Legislative Budget Board must approve the transfer between budget line items.

### **Contract Approvals – Agenda Item 22, Tab 18**

Presiding Officer Margo recognized Ms. McConnell to present the contract approvals. She reviewed the seven contracts requiring approval by the Oversight Committee. Ms. McConnell noted that the Office of the Attorney General must approve the outside legal services contract renewals prior to contract execution and that the contract with Weaver & Tidwell will require the State Auditor's Office to provide audit delegation authority to CPRIT prior to contract execution. She reiterated that CPRIT will include the interagency contract with the Texas Treasury Safekeeping Trust Company contract in a letter to be sent to the Legislative Budget Board requesting authority to transfer the funds between agency budget line items to support the contract .

#### **MOTION:**

On a motion by Dr. Cummings and seconded by Dr. Rice, the Oversight Committee unanimously voted to approve the contracts with ICON Clinical Research, Hahn Public Communications, Baker Botts, Yudell Isidore, The Perryman Group, Weaver and Tidwell, and the Texas Treasury Safekeeping Trust Company.

### **Communications Report – Agenda Item 19, Tab 16**

Presiding Officer Margo recognized Senior Communications Specialist Chris Cutrone to present the communications update. Mr. Cutrone provided a brief overview of media highlights from the last quarter and a summary of current Communications projects and social media statistics. There were no questions for Mr. Cutrone.

### **Subcommittee Business – Agenda Item 23**

Presiding Chair Margo presented the proposed subcommittee assignments.

#### **MOTION:**

On a motion by Dr. Rice and seconded by Mr. Montgomery, the Oversight Committee unanimously voted to approve the new subcommittee assignments for FY 2021.

### **Compliance Investigation Pursuant to Health & Safety Code § 102.2631 – Agenda Item 21 Consultation with General Counsel – Agenda Item 22**

The Oversight Committee did not take up these two items.

**Future Meeting Dates and Agenda Items – Agenda Item 23, Tab 18**

Presiding Officer Margo presented the proposed dates for the Oversight Committee’s regular quarterly meetings and subcommittee meetings in FY 2021. The next regular Oversight Committee meeting will occur on November 18, 2020, by videoconference.

**MOTION:**


On a motion by Dr. Rice and seconded by Dr. Hernandez, the Oversight Committee unanimously voted to approve the FY 2021 meeting dates for the regular meetings of the Oversight Committee and its subcommittees.

**Adjournment – Agenda Item 24**

**MOTION:**

There being no further business, the Oversight Committee unanimously voted to approve a motion to adjourn made by Presiding Officer Margo and seconded by Mr. Montgomery.

Meeting adjourned at 11:08 a.m.

  
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Signature

11/18/20  
Date

