DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Office of the Secretary
Office of Public Health and Science

Office for Human Research Protections
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July 17, 2002

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600 North Wolfe Street
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RE: Human Research Subject Protections Under Multiple Project Assurance (MPA) M-1011

Research Project: **Loss of Imprinting and Colorectal Cancer**
Principal Investigator: Dr. Andrew Feinberg
RPN Number **99-09-07-02**

Dear Dr. Dang, Dr. Klag, and Mr. Peterson:

The Office for Human Research Protections (OHRP) has reviewed your March 1, 2002 report responding to OHRP's letter of January 24, 2002.

Based on its review, OHRP makes the following determinations:

(1) OHRP finds that the following corrective actions taken by the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine (JHU) adequately address the findings and required actions stipulated by OHRP in its January 24, 2002 letter and are appropriate under the JHU MPA:

(a) The informed consent document for the above-referenced research has been modified to include a statement describing the risks of additional colonic biopsies.

(b) JHU has indicated that when the study is amended to include children, the investigators will (i) include only children who are scheduled to undergo a clinically indicated colonoscopy; and (ii) will seek a reduced number of biopsies.

(2) Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) regulations at 45 CFR 46.103(b)(4)(iii) stipulate that changes in a research activity may not be initiated without IRB review and approval except when necessary to eliminate immediate hazards tot he subject. OHRP finds that the investigators for the above-referenced research failed to obtain IRB approval to enroll more subjects than had originally been approved by the IRB. Furthermore, OHRP finds that the following corrective actions adequately address this finding and are appropriate under the JHU MPA:

(a) The JHU Institutional Review Board has sent a notice to its clinical investigators reminding them of the need to obtain IRB approval prior to amending protocols to adjust sample size.

(b) JHU has also indicated that greater care will be taken to assure that all changes in protocol sample size are documented when approving such amendments.

As a result of the above determinations, there should be no need for further involvement of OHRP in this matter. Of course, OHRP must be notified should new information be identified which might alter this determination.

OHRP appreciates the continued commitment of your institution to the protection of human research subjects. Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Patrick J. McNeilly, Ph.D.
Compliance Oversight Coordinator
Division of Compliance Oversight

cc: Dr. Martha Hill, Dean, School of Nursing, JHU
Dr. Gary W. Goldstein, President, Kennedy Krieger Institute
Ms. Karen Cox, Research Administrator, Kennedy Krieger Institute
Dr. Darrell R. Abernethy, Clinical Director, NIA
Mr. David Grant, Applied Physics Laboratory
Ms. Barbara L. Starklauf, Administrator, Human Subjects Committees, JHUSOM
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