



Office for Human Research Protections  
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October 20, 2003

J. Dennis O'Connor  
Vice President for Research and  
Dean of the Graduate School  
University of Maryland  
2133 Lee Building  
College Park, MD 20742-5121

**RE: Human Research Subject Protections Under Multiple Project Assurance  
(MPA) M-1362  
Research Project: Treatment of Childhood Social Phobia  
Principal Investigators: Deborah C. Beidel and Samuel M. Turner  
Grant Number: 2RO1MH053703-05A2**

Dear Dr. O'Connor:

The Office for Human Research Protections (OHRP) has reviewed the University of Maryland's (UM's) July 30 and September 28, 2003 reports responding to OHRP's July 1, 2003 letter requiring corrective action for findings of noncompliance with Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) regulations protecting human research subjects involving the above-referenced study.

Based upon its review, OHRP finds that the corrective actions described below adequately address OHRP's July 1, 2003 findings:

In its July 1, 2003 letter, OHRP found that the IRB-approved consent document for the above study (a) did not include the anticipated duration of diagnostic assessments to be conducted before treatment and at three interval periods after treatment, (b) confounded the concepts of treatment and experimental intervention in a manner that was potentially misleading, and (c) did not describe the EKG procedure (and any expenses associated with the procedure) that was a requisite part of the study, as required by HHS regulations at 45 CFR 46.116(a).

**Corrective Action:** At its August 7, 2003 meeting, the UM IRB approved revisions to the informed consent document for the above research which (a) included the anticipated duration of diagnostic assessments to be conducted before treatment and at three interval periods after treatment, and (b) clarified that subjects are randomized to one of three

separate and independent study arms: (i) social effectiveness therapy, (ii) fluoxetine, or (iii) placebo. In addition, the UM IRB approved a procedure for obtaining renewed consent from all currently enrolled study subjects, including those in the preliminary assessment, intervention, and follow-up phases of the study.

On August 15, 2003, the principal investigators submitted to the UM IRB a revised informed consent form subsequently approved by the IRB which, in addition to the changes required by the IRB at its August 7, 2003 meeting, included a description of the required EKG procedure and the physiological variables that it measures.

OHRP finds that the above corrective actions are adequate and appropriate under UM's MPA. As a result, there should be no need for further OHRP involvement.

OHRP appreciates your continued commitment to the protection of human research subjects.

Sincerely,

Carol J. Weil, J.D.  
Compliance Oversight Coordinator  
Division of Human Subject Protections

cc: Dr. Timothy J Ng, Associate VP Research  
P. Moser-Veillon, IRB Co-Chair  
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