




University of the Philippines Manila
RESEARCH ETHICS BOARD

Room 126, National Institutes of Health, UP Manila 623 Pedro Gil Street, Ermita, 1000 Manila
Telephone: +63 2 8526-4346; Email: upmreb@post.upm.edu.ph

MEMORANDUM JVM—2024—01

17 May 2024

TO: ALL PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATORS

FROM: 
JACINTO BLAS V. MANTARING III, MD, MSC
UPMREB Chair

SUBJECT: Advisory Against Unscrupulous Recruiters

Please be advised that the University of the Philippines Manila Research Ethics Board (UPMREB) received a report that a recruiter for a clinical trial being conducted in another hospital attempted, on several occasions, to recruit from current subjects of an active clinical trial being conducted in the Philippine General Hospital. According to the report, this recruiter is soliciting the participation of subjects who are already enrolled in different clinical trials, with offers of assistance in falsifying documents to meet eligibility requirements of the trial in that other hospital. In the interest of protecting the well-being of clinical trial subjects, **all Principal Investigators are instructed to:**

1. Establish appropriate site control procedures for detecting false documents that may be used in the enrolment of subjects.
2. Contact respective clinical trial subjects to warn them against such predatory recruitment practices and the dangers posed by multiple clinical trial enrolment.
3. Create vetting procedures for community recruiters, if respective clinical trials are using such services, and formally accredit these recruiters' affiliation with the clinical trial site to facilitate accountability; and submit an amendment to site specific procedures, as needed, using [UPMREB FORM 3\(A\)2012 Study Protocol Amendment Submission Form](#)
4. Closely monitor any future similar occurrences encountered.
5. Continue to report all such occurrences encountered immediately using [UPMREB FORM 3\(I\)2012 Queries, Notification and Complaints](#).
6. Include the above information, in subsequent submissions of [FORM UPMREB FORM 3\(B\)2012 Continuing Review Application Form](#).
7. Submit parallel notifications to the Single Joint Review Ethics Board (SJREB), for clinical trials under SJREB oversight.

In the meantime, UPMREB will coordinate with relevant offices and will advise all concerned if additional actions are required.