Date: 04/21/2021

Sponsor contact block - enter name, address, email as appropriate

RE: CHANGE IN RESEARCH IN RESPONSE TO COVID-19

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Principal Investigator: last name, first name | |
| Sponsor: enter sponsor name | Sponsor Award #: ######## |
| Award Dates:       – | UNC Project ID: ######## |

To Whom It May Concern:

Beginning Friday, March 20, 2020, the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (University) significantly reduced operations on campus as a response to the COVID-19 outbreak. Research that could be conducted remotely was encouraged as much as possible in order to enable the University’s research enterprise to continue its important work. However, this letter ***demonstrates the effect of COVID-19 on the research efforts of the award identified above*** in order to comply with [University](https://www.unc.edu/posts/2020/03/17/reduced-operations/) and [State](https://files.nc.gov/governor/documents/files/EO121-Stay-at-Home-Order-3.pdf) guidance.

Summary of University guidance reducing research operations

Under the University’s reduced operations guidance, laboratory-based research is restricted to “[critical research activities](https://research.unc.edu/covid-19/research-activities-updated-guidance/)” and all labs and cores without this designation were to have ramped down operations effective March 25. Human subjects research visits (involving direct contact) are postponed unless the visit provides immediate benefit to the health or well-being of the participant. The Division of Comparative Medicine continues to provide care and support for research animals; however, non-essential experiments are postponed until normal operations resume on campus. Research and related administrative activities that can be conducted remotely continue to be performed. In addition, all University compliance offices continue to operate to support the campus research community and maintain ongoing compliance.

Summary of University guidance reopening research operations

Beginning June 1, 2020, the University resumed research operations in facilities and labs on campus at a reduced capacity – see guidance [here](https://research.unc.edu/covid-19/resuming/). Research is no longer restricted to specifically approved “critical research activities” and research operations may increase up to 50% of capacity. While research facilities will resume operation at reduced capacity, **all research that can effectively be done remotely should continue to be conducted remotely and not on campus for reasons of health and safety.** All research support offices continue to be open and operating remotely to provide full support to the research enterprise.

***Completed by the Principal Investigator***

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| **Was the above referenced project impacted by University guidance to reduce operations?** **YES or NO** *If you answer YES, in the section(s) below, describe the nature of the impact and any anticipated delays. If you answer NO, describe why there was no impact (i.e., research activity was deemed critical). Delete any sections below not applicable to this project/award.*  **Impact to Research**  enter response  Anticipated delays:enter response  **Impact to Human Subject Research -** UNC IRB Protocol(s):##-####  enter response  Anticipated delays:enter response  **Impact to Animal Subject Research** - UNC IACUC Protocol(s): ##-####  enter response  Anticipated delays:enter response |

In accordance with federal agency and [University policy](https://policies.unc.edu/TDClient/2833/Portal/KB/ArticleDet?ID=131793), the University will continue to charge salaries to eligible financial assistance awards. If you have any questions with the information in this letter and/or need further clarification, please contact the Office of Sponsored Research via email at [ResAdminOSR@unc.edu](mailto:ResAdminOSR@unc.edu).

Sincerely,

Principal Investigator: Authorizing Official:

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| A screenshot of a cell phone  Description automatically generated | A screenshot of a cell phone  Description automatically generated | |
| enter PI's full name | Terry Magnuson, PhD |
| enter PI's title | Vice Chancellor for Research |
| enter PI's email | [ResAdminOSR@unc.edu](mailto:ResAdminOSR@unc.edu) |