



UNIVERSITY *of* LIMERICK
OLLSCOIL LUIMNIGH

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

between

The University of Limerick

and

UL Hospitals

Memorandum of Understanding (“MoU”)

By and Between

The University of Limerick, a body established by the Universities Act 1997 of Limerick, Ireland (“UL”)

and

UL Hospitals comprising six acute clinical sites in Limerick, Clare and North Tipperary (“ULHs”)

Each a Party, together the Parties

1. Introduction

- 1.1 The ULH Strategic Plan 2014 – 2016 entitled *“Building an Independent Future”* contains four strategic priorities. These are (a) the development of a functioning single hospital across multiple sites; (b) the provision of a quality, safe and efficient service; (c) The development of our ICT systems; and (d) the promotion of clinical education and research in association with the University of Limerick.
- 1.2 UL has approved the establishment of a Health Research Institute (HRI) and a Clinical Research Support Unit which will be placed in this Institute. The HRI has been established to address key national and international priority needs in health. The HRI will promote a culture of inter-disciplinary healthcare research which has the potential to contribute significantly to UL’s strategic goal of strengthening the impact of its research nationally and enhancing UL’s research profile internationally.
- 1.3 This MoU relates to the governance and operation of the UL/UL Hospitals Clinical Research Unit which is a sub-unit of the newly established HRI Clinical Research Support Unit. The UL/UL Hospitals Clinical Research Unit is a joint enterprise between the University of Limerick and UL Hospitals. The aim of this sub-unit is to support delivery of UL and ULH’s Strategic Research Plans, specifically (a) bringing together the existing resources that support clinical research across UL Hospitals into the newly established Clinical Research Support Unit (b) working with UL’s Health Research Institute to further develop the clinical research activities across UL Hospitals and the University of Limerick and sets out how the activities of the CRU will be managed. This MoU sets out the intentions of the Parties but is non-legally binding.

2. Framework

- 2.1 The Parties have worked collaboratively to develop a framework document for the governance and operation of the UL/UL Hospitals Clinical Research Unit ("Appendix 1 – hereinafter "Framework").
- 2.2 The Parties hereby agree to work together and in good faith in accordance with this Framework.
- 2.3 The Parties have established an oversight committee ("Oversight Committee") to guide the implementation of the Framework. The Oversight Committee will meet at least quarterly and shall be responsible for providing oversight on the implementation of the Framework. The Oversight Committee shall be composed of three representatives from UL and three from UL Hospitals; UL Vice President Research, UL HRI Clinical Operations Manager, ULHRI Director, UL Hospitals Chief Executive Officer, UL Hospitals Chief Academic Officer and UL Hospitals Chief Operations Officer. The role of Chair will be held on a six monthly rotational basis by either a UL or a UL Hospitals representative. A quorum of all 6 Oversight Committee members is required for a valid meeting. Decisions will be made by voting, with one vote per Oversight member.

3. Dispute Resolution

- 3.1 UL and ULHs agree that in the event of any dispute arising between the parties in relation to this MoU shall, in the first instance, be referred to the Oversight Committee who will make recommendations to resolve the dispute within 60 days of the dispute of being notified of the dispute. If the dispute is not rectified by the Oversight Committee within the aforementioned 60 day period, the matter shall be referred to the ULHs Chairman and the UL President who will meet together as required to resolve the dispute.

4. Legal Relationship between the Parties

- 4.1 UL and ULHs will retain their respective independent and separate legal identities. Each Party shall be solely and severally responsible for their activities and those of their personnel under this MoU.

5. Research Projects

- 5.1 It is recognised the Parties may perform research projects in accordance with the Framework. Each agreed research project will be subject to a separate project specific written agreement that will include details of the project funding, scope, duration, reporting obligations and will set out mutually agreeable intellectual property, confidential information and risk management provisions.

6. **Term**

- 6.1 This Memorandum of Understanding will come into operation on the eight day of June and shall be reviewed every twelve months ("Review Point") thereafter by a procedure jointly agreed by the Parties. Either Party may terminate this MoU at any point by providing the other Party with one months written notice to this effect.

Colette Cowan

Professor Colette Cowan
Chief Executive Officer
UL Hospitals

Date: 2ND JUNE 2015.

Don Barry

Professor Don Barry
President
University of Limerick

Date: 3/6/2015