

Research Governance and Integrity Team
Academic Health Science Centre
Imperial College London and
Imperial College Healthcare NHS Trust
Level 5, Sherfield Building
South Kensington Campus
02075941862
r.nicholson@imperial.ac.uk

<https://www.imperial.ac.uk/research-and-innovation/research-office/research-governance-and-integrity/>

Ruth Nicholson
Head of Research Governance and Integrity

10/03/2025

Professor Danny McAuley

Dear Professor McAuley

RE: PANTHER

Research Governance and Integrity Team number: 172256

This is to confirm that the above named research project utilises human participants, their organs, tissue and/or data as defined under the sponsorship requirements of the UK Policy Framework for Health and Social Care 2017, incorporating the Medicines for Human Use (Clinical Trials) Regulations 2004.

On behalf of Imperial College of Science, Technology and Medicine, we undertake to act as the identified Research Sponsor for this project.

This letter confirms:

- The research proposal has been discussed, assessed and registered with the RGIT, Academic Health Science Centre, Imperial College London and provisional sponsor approval granted.
- The Chief Investigator has undergone a process of scientific critique commensurate with the scale of the project.
- Indemnity and insurance arrangements have been put in place to cover the project.
- Resources and support are available to the research team to aid delivery of the research as proposed.
- Management, monitoring and reporting responsibilities for the research have been approved.
- Imperial College will undertake and enforce those sponsor duties set out in the NHS UK Policy Framework for Health and Social Care.

Imperial College Sponsorship is conditional on the project receiving applicable ethical and regulatory approval for all research related aspects of its conduct. It is also conditional on successful contract and agreement negotiations and sign off via the Joint Research Office, where relevant, and before the study commences.

The Research Governance and Integrity Team will issue you with a Study Start Approval form following confirmation that all necessary approvals, documentation and contracts/agreements are in place for your clinical trial.

You must NOT commence recruitment at any site until you have received a signed study start approval form.

A copy of the ethics approval letter **must** be sent to the Clinical Trials Manager prior to the study commencing. Sponsorship is dependent on obtaining R&D Office approval (confirmation of Capacity and Capability) for all NHS sites where the research is being conducted.

Yours sincerely

Ruth Nicholson
Head of Research Governance and Integrity