

**DECATUR MEMORIAL HOSPITAL
INSTITUTIONAL REVIEW BOARD**

SUBJECT: PAYMENT TO RESEARCH PARTICIPANTS

STANDARD: PATIENT RIGHTS AND ORGANIZATION ETHICS

EFFECTIVE: 1/98; 12/06; 03/09

POLICY:

It is not uncommon for participants to be paid for their participation in research, especially in the early phases of investigational drug, biologic or device development. Payment to research participants for participation in clinical trials is not considered a benefit. It is usually offered when health benefits to participants are remote.

Specific Policies

Payment to Research Participants

The amount and schedule of all payments should be presented to the IRB at the time of initial review. The IRB will review both the amount of payment and the proposed method and time of disbursement to assure that neither are coercive or present undue influence. The amount of payment will be considered by the IRB on a protocol-by-protocol basis.

Any credit for payment should accrue as the study progresses and not be contingent upon the participant completing the entire study. Payment of a small proportion as an incentive for completion of the study is acceptable, providing that such incentive is not coercive. The IRB will determine if the amount paid as a bonus for completion is reasonable and not so large as to unduly induce participants to stay in the study when they would otherwise have withdrawn. All information concerning payment, including the amount and schedule of payment(s), should be set forth in the patient information and consent form document.

Forms of Payment

Payment to research participants should NOT be in the form of a coupon, good for a discount on the purchase price of the product once it becomes commercially available.

Forms of payment may include compensation for time away from work, reimbursement for travel costs, and tokens of appreciation such as a gift card. These forms of payment are not all inclusive and will be reviewed by the IRB on a protocol-by-protocol basis.

APPLICABLE TO:

These policies and procedures apply to all investigators who wish to provide participants with any form of payment to participate in research.

RESPONSIBILITY:

The Document Specialists are responsible for documenting the amount and schedule of payment in the patient information and consent form document.

IRB members are responsible for reviewing the amount and schedule of payments, ensuring that the payment is not coercive or so substantial as to be considered secondary pay.

APPROVED BY:

President and CEO