Waiver to Allow Participation in a Food and Drug Administration Advisory Committee

DATE: May 2, 2024

TO: Rachel Bressler
Acting Director, Advisory Committee Oversight and Management Staff
Office of the Chief Scientist

FROM: Byron Marshall
Director, Division of Advisory Committee and Consultant Management
Office of Executive Programs
Center for Drug Evaluation and Research

Name of Advisory Committee Meeting Voting Member: **Daniel Press, M.D**.

Committee: Peripheral and Central Nervous System Drugs Advisory Committee

Meeting date: June 10, 2024

Description of the Particular Matter to Which the Waiver Applies:

Daniel Press, M.D., is a temporary voting member of the Peripheral and Central Nervous System Drugs Advisory Committee. The Committee's function is to review and evaluate data concerning the safety and effectiveness of marketed and investigational human drug products for use in the treatment of neurologic diseases and make appropriate recommendations to the Commissioner of Food and Drugs.

On June 10th, the Committee will discuss biologics license application (BLA) 761248, for donanemab solution for intravenous infusion, submitted by Eli Lilly and Company, for the treatment of early symptomatic Alzheimer's disease. The topic of this advisory meeting is a particular matter involving specific parties.

Type, Nature, and Magnitude of the Financial Interest:

Dr. Press is Chief of the Cognitive Neurology Unit at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center (BIDMC), Clinical Director of the Center for Noninvasive Brain Stimulation, BIDMC and Attending Staff Physician at BIDMC. He is also Associate Professor in Neurology at Harvard Medical School.

Dr. Press's employer, BIDMC, is participating in a study titled *A Randomized, Double-blind, Placebo-controlled, Parallel-group, Multicenter Study to Assess the Efficacy and Safety of JNJ-*

63733657, an Anti-tau Monoclonal Antibody, in Participants With Early Alzheimer's Disease NCT04619420, sponsored by Janssen. The study began in August 2021 with an anticipated end date of (b) (4). BIDMC receives between $100,000 and $200,000 per year from Janssen for its participation in the study. Dr. Press serves as the site principal investigator and receives no salary support or personal remuneration for his role. Dr. Press does not have any personal financial interest in this study. Because Dr. Press's employer's interests are imputed to him under 18 U.S.C. § 208, the waived financial interest is BIDMC's contractual interest in receiving the money they are owed under the contract for the BIDMC's participation in the study. Specifically, the BIDMC's financial interest is limited to its interest in Janssen's (the study sponsor's) ability or willingness to perform under the contract governing the study. Because Janssen is a large multinational pharmaceutical firm with a large array of products, we believe there is low risk that the meeting would affect Janssen's ability or willingness to meet its contractual obligations. But because the confidential nature of study contract precludes analysis of the specific financial details of the contract, we are issuing this waiver out of an abundance of caution and in the interest of disclosure.

Basis for Granting the Waiver

Dr. Daniel Press has unique qualifications and specialized expertise needed for this particular matter.

Dr. Press received his medical degree from the University of Connecticut School of Medicine. Upon completion, he trained in Neurology at the Harvard Longwood Neurology Training Program and completed his fellowship training in both Behavioral Neurology and Movement Disorders. He further earned his Masters in Clinical Science at Harvard Medical School and is board certified in Neurology.

Dr. Press's professional interest focuses on his clinical research in neurodegenerative conditions such as Alzheimer's disease, Parkinson's disease and Lewy Body diseases. Dr. Press heads the clinical research work at his institution where multiple National Institutes of Health (NIH) sponsored and industry sponsored clinical trials as well as investigations into noninvasive brain stimulation for treatment of Alzheimer's disease are conducted. He has more than 20 years of clinical experience and is extensively published in his field.

The particular matter is sensitive.

This topic is considered to be sensitive, as the FDA Division with responsibility for the review of this product expects the matter coming before the Committee to garner significant public interest, (non-trade) press interest, and significant congressional interest, and it is considered highly controversial.

Dr. Daniel Press's expertise in this particular matter is necessary in the interest of public health.

Alzheimer's disease is a fatal illness that causes progressive decline in memory and other aspects of cognition. Dementia due to Alzheimer's disease is the most common form of dementia, accounting for 60 to 80 percent of all cases. Alzheimer's disease involves parts of the brain that control thought, memory, and language and can seriously affect a person's ability to carry out

daily activities. Alzheimer's disease is the most common cause of dementia among older adults, one of the top 10 leading causes of death in the United States, and the 5th leading cause of death among adults aged 65 years or older. The number of people living with the disease doubles every 5 years beyond age 65. In 2010, the costs of treating Alzheimer's disease were projected to fall between $159 and $215 billion. By 2040, these costs are projected to jump to between $379 and more than $500 billion annually. There's no cure for Alzheimer's disease, but certain medications and therapies can help manage symptoms temporarily. There are two classes of FDA-approved drug treatments for Alzheimer's disease: (1) drugs that change disease progression and (2) drugs that treat cognitive symptoms (memory and thinking). Instead of only treating the symptoms, donanemab targets the fundamental pathophysiology of Alzheimer's disease. It is an investigational antibody designed to clear amyloid plaque from the brain. As an immunoglobulin G1 monoclonal antibody directed against insoluble, modified, N-terminal truncated form of β-amyloid present only in brain amyloid plaques, donanemab binds to N-terminal truncated form of β-amyloid and aids plaque removal through microglial-mediated phagocytosis.

In the interest of public health, it is important that the Agency has available the unique combination of expertise that Dr. Press will provide for the discussion of the particular matter before the Committee.

Any potential for a conflict of interest is greatly outweighed by the strong need for Dr. Press's expertise in this matter.

With Dr. Press' extensive experience and background in Alzheimer's disease in combination with other neurodegenerative disorders, and the conduct of clinical trials, his participation in the Committee's discussions is necessary to provide expert advice and recommendations to the Agency.

Accordingly, I recommend that you grant Dr. Daniel Press, a temporary voting member of the Peripheral and Central Nervous System Drugs Advisory Committee, a waiver from the conflict of interest prohibitions of 18 U.S.C. § 208(a).

Certification:

___X___ The individual may participate, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. 208(b)(3) – The need for the individual's services outweighs the potential for a conflict of interest created by the financial interest involved.

Limitations on the Regular Government Employee's or Special Government Employee's Ability to Act:

_____ Non-voting

_____ Other (specify):

_____

_____ Denied – The individual may not participate.

Rachel S. Bressler -S Digitally signed by Rachel S. Bressler -S
Date: 2024.05.22 11:37:53 -04'00'

May 22, 2024

Rachel Bressler
Acting Director
Advisory Committee Oversight and Management Staff
Office of the Chief Scientist

Date