February 24, 2005  (No. 2005-03)

Memorandum to: FERCAP Members
From: Vichai Chokevivat, MD, MPH, FERCAP Chairman

Re: Call for Applications for FIRST Scholars to the FERCAP Ethical Review Committee Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) Workshop

Dear Colleagues:

The Forum for Independent Review System in Taiwan (FIRST) will host the FERCAP Ethical Review Committee Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) Workshop to be held in Taipei on March 28-29, 2005. This workshop will train members of Ethical Review Committees in Taiwan and the Asia Pacific to formulate and refine their standard operating procedures for ethical review of health research protocols. The workshop schedule is attached and venue details are as follows:

Ethical Review Committee Standard Operating Procedure Workshop
Venue: The Chi Teh Building, 3rd Conference Room, Taipei Veterans General Hospital
No. 201, Sec. 2, Shih-Pai Road, Taipei 112, Taiwan
Tel : 886 -2-28712121
Fax : 886 -2-28732131
Hotel: The Grand Hotel
No.1, Sec.4, Chung Shan N.Rd.,Taipei, Taiwan, 104.R.O.C
Tel : 886-2-2886-8888  FAX : 886-2-2885-2885

FIRST is making available 10 scholarships for developing countries in the region for the SOP training workshop. Details are as follows:

1. Purpose: To enhance human subject protection activities in FERCAP countries.
2. Qualification of Applicants: Attendees from FERCAP countries to workshops hosted by FIRST.
3. Range of support:
   a. Registration fee (arranged by FIRST directly)
   b. Local accommodation for the period of meeting plus 1 night. (arranged by FIRST directly)
   c. US$ 300 airfare support
4. Application will be reviewed by FERCAP based on the following qualifications:
   a. Should be a FERCAP member
   b. Should be an IEC/IRB member or staff
   c. Should have undergone basic IEC/IRB training
   d. Should bring a copy of SOP used by the IEC/IRB
e. Priority will be given to applicants from developing countries

5. The Education Committee of Medical Research Ethics Foundation of Taiwan will review the application based on
   2. Expected contribution to human subject protection in applicant’s country.
   3. Number of applicants from same country.
   4. Availability of funds.

6. Application Procedures:
Please e-mail your application to attend the SOP workshop to torres@fercap-sidcer.org no later that Friday, March 4, 2005 with the following:
   a. Cover letter that should contain the following:
      • Experience related to human subject protection (e.g. years as IRB member,…)
      • Expected contribution to human subject protection in your country after you return.
   b. Your CV

We hope that you will take advantage of opportunities for capability building of the ethical review system in the region. Thank you.

Sincerely yours,

[Signature]