



Legislation Text

File #: 09-0290, **Version:** 1

Recommendation to authorize City Manager, or designee, to execute an agreement, and any subsequent amendments, between the City of Long Beach and the University of California, Los Angeles to participate in a methamphetamine dependence study in the amount of \$36,283 for the period of April 1, 2009 through February 28, 2010; and increase appropriations in the Health Fund (SR 130) in the Department of Health and Human Services (HE) by \$36,283. (Citywide)

The University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) approached the Department of Health and Human Services (Health Department) to work collaboratively on a research study addressing methamphetamine (Meth) addiction. This resulted in a grant in the amount of \$36,283 to the Health Department to conduct a medical study involving a randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled evaluation of the drug Modafinil vs. Placebo for the treatment of methamphetamine dependence.

Meth addiction has reached almost epidemic proportions in our country, and its destructive effects are felt at every level of society; destroying lives, fueling the spread of HIV and STDs, increasing criminality, disrupting family units and causing severe psychiatric and behavioral problems. Currently, there is no approved drug for Meth addiction and dependence.

Modafinil, a non-amphetamine type stimulant drug that is currently approved by the FDA in the treatment of narcolepsy, a disorder causing daytime sleepiness, will be tested in this study to determine if it will aid in reducing the negative effects of Meth addition, including use, cravings, and withdrawal symptoms, among other medical benchmarks.

Modafinil has already been shown to be effective in the management of cocaine abuse and dependence. Testing will be conducted in a collaborative effort between staff of the Health Department and UCLA. Human subjects oversight for this study will be provided for by the UCLA Human Subjects Review Board.

This matter was reviewed by Deputy City Attorney Linda Trang on March 5, 2009 and by Budget and Performance Management Bureau Manager David Wodynski on March 9, 2009.

City Council action is requested on March 24, 2009, as the agreement is scheduled to become effective April 1, 2009.

The total amount of the agreement is \$36,283, for the period from April 1, 2009 through February 28, 2010, and it will cover the direct costs to provide the requested services in the Health Fund. There is no impact to the General Fund. An appropriation increase in the Health Fund (SR 130) and the Department of Health and Human Services (HE) has been included as part of the recommendation.

Approve recommendation.

RONALD R. ARIAS
DIRECTOR HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

APPROVED:

PATRICK H. WEST
CITY MANAGER