James Kirklin  
Principal Investigator  
INTERMACS  
University of Alabama at Birmingham  
Birmingham, AL

Dear Dr. Kirklin,

The Observational Studies Monitoring Board (OSMB) for the Interagency Registry for Mechanically Assisted Circulatory Support (INTERMACS) met by conference call on August 16, 2013. During this teleconference the OSMB reviewed progress and current activities.

The list below are the OSMB’s recommendations to the NHLBI concerning INTERMACS:

1. The Board commended the Investigators for continued great performance and success, and on major contributions this study continues to make in the field.
2. The Board acknowledged the unexpected hardship to be generated by the CMS planned decision that INTERMACS participation is no longer required for VADs to be reimbursed.
3. The Board commended investigators on the recommended optimization of consent pursuit to decrease the number of “missed cases”.
4. The Board endorsed the investigators’ proposal for also providing a summary of the study scientific achievements and impact on the field and requested to review the summary prior to its submission.

The Board unanimously voted for the study to continue.

Respectfully submitted,

[Signature]

For:

George Sopko, M.D., M.P.H.  
INTERMACS OSMB Executive Secretary