**Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

**Department of Developmental Services**

**Research Review Committee Meeting Minutes**

Date: April 25, 2025

By Teams: RRC Members: Erin Brown (Chairperson), Joshua Greenberg, Joseph Weru, Janet George, Kathleen Gallagher, Deborah Dreyfus (for administrative matters only), and Freddy Torbey (observer/minutes)

Additional Attendees: Deborah Dreyfus (for proposal discussion, co-Principal Investigator), Emily Lauer (Principal Investigator), Dennis Heaphy, and Allison Habermehl

**Agenda Items**

1. Administrative matters
2. “Paramedic Acute Response Approach for Adults with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (PARA-AIDD);” Laurel O’Connor, MD, MSC; Emily Lauer, PhD, MPH; Deborah Dreyfus, MD, MSC
3. Investigator Dreyfus lost contact around 1:43 PM, and rejoined under the phone call option
4. Attendants Heaphy and Habermehl left meeting at 1:45 PM
5. Investigators Lauer and Dreyfus left call at 1:56 PM

## HOUSEKEEPING

* Chair established quorum
* Chair presented proposals for discussion

### Review and Vote on April 4, 2025, Meeting Minutes

Outcome

* Chair moved for a vote and Committee members agreed to adopt April 4, 2025, meeting minutes

“**Paramedic Acute Response Approach for Adults with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (PARA-AIDD)**;” Laurel O’Connor, MD, MSC; Emily Lauer, PhD, MPH; Deborah Dreyfus, MD, MSC

Discussion

* Investigator Dreyfus presented proposal purpose and processes
* Investigator Lauer clarified proposal practices and level of services provided to research populations
* Investigator Lauer affirmed that data collected for the purpose and during the course of this research will be retained exclusively by and for the use of this project and researchers
* Attendant Heaphy questioned the level of input regular care providers will have in paramedic decision making, in order for research subjects to ensure their continuity of care
* Majority of data accessed and produced by this project is already present in various pre-existing databases, which investigators can currently access on “as needed” basis
* Optional after-visit qualitative interview will come with an informed consent waiver for data protection purposes

Issues

* Participant/guardian-facing materials are overly technical for proposed research participant population
* Breadth of organizations that can review data collected, as well as length of retention of data are undefined
* Investigators committed to working on formulating clearer and more population-friendly language for the consent and potential future assent forms

Outcome

* Chair moved for a vote and Committee members agreed to approve proposal conditional on 1) provision of revised language for participant-facing, 2) meeting informed consent requirements, 3) IRB approval documentation, and 4) clarification regarding item number 7 of proposal

### APPROVED WITH CONDITIONS

“**Paramedic Acute Response Approach for Adults with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (PARA-AIDD)**;” Laurel O’Connor, MD, MSC; Emily Lauer, PhD, MPH; Deborah Dreyfus, MD, MSC

### CLOSING MATTERS

Next scheduled RRC meeting is for Friday, June 6, 2025.