

**APPROVAL LETTER
MEDICAL RESEARCH CENTER
HMC, DOHA-QATAR**

Betsy Varughese Clinical Quality Administrator Gastroenterology - Medicine Department. Hamad Medical Corporation (HMC)		Date: 21 June 2020
Protocol No.	MRC-05-085	
Study Title:	Epidemiological and clinical characteristics in relation to gastrointestinal symptoms of COVID -19 cases in Qatar	
Facilities:	ACC	
Review Type:	IRB Exempt Research	
Decision:	Exempt Category 3	
IRB Approval Date:	N/A	

The Medical Research Center (MRC) has approved the request for the above mentioned research study to be conducted in HMC on an expedited basis.

This study must be fully compliant with all the relevant sections of the 'Human Subjects Research' policies at HMC. Where amendments to the initial protocol are deemed necessary, it is the responsibility of the Principal Investigator (PI) to ensure that appropriate IRB/MRC reviews and renewed approvals are in place before implementing any changes. Medical Research Center should be notified immediately of any proposed changes to the study protocol that may affect the 'exempt' status of this study. Please note that only official, stamped versions of the IRB/MRC approved documentation are to be utilized at any stage in the conduct of this study and follow the validity dates in the IRB/MRC stamped documents.


This expedited approval process reduces the usual level of oversight by the MRC, and it is the responsibility of the PI to ensure appropriate departmental, facilities and Biosafety committee (If required) approvals are in place. Further, **this approval covers HMC sites only**, you may also need approvals from other institutions involved in your study (ie. MoPH quarantine facilities might require additional approvals from MoPH).

You should not start until all approvals have been obtained. Further, it is important that data or samples shall not be shared externally until necessary agreements are in place.

The application has been approved on an expedited basis offline however all research documents should be submitted on Abhath **within a month from approval date**. The research team must ensure that progress on the study is appropriately recorded in ABHATH.

We wish you success in this research and await the outcomes in due course.

Yours sincerely,
Prof. Michael Paul Frenneaux
Chief of Scientific, Academic and Faculty Affairs
Hamad Medical Corporation


Prof Michael Frenneaux
Chief of Scientific
Academic Faculty Affairs - HMC
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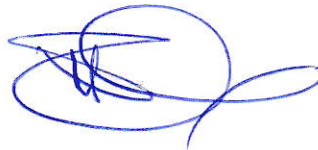
**BUDGET APPROVAL LETTER
MEDICAL RESEARCH CENTER
HMC, DOHA-QATAR**

Date: 21 June 2020

**Betsy Varughese
Clinical Quality Administrator
Gastroenterology - Medicine Department.
Hamad Medical Corporation**

Protocol No.	MRC-05-085
Study Title:	Epidemiological and clinical characteristics in relation to gastrointestinal symptoms of COVID -19 cases in Qatar
Team Member List:	Please see study SOD
The Medical Research Center has reviewed and approved the budget for the above mentioned study - budget summary below:	
Publication:	Approved - standard publication charges of up to Qrs. 5,000.00 , with reimbursement being made upon submission of supporting documentation in original. Reimbursement of publication charges will apply only to manuscripts accepted for publication in peer-reviewed journals with an impact factor of 0.5 and above.

Yours sincerely,



**Prof. Michael Paul Frenneaux
Chief of Scientific, Academic and Faculty Affairs
Hamad Medical Corporation**

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