



MINISTRY OF HEALTH
SINGAPORE

Human Biomedical Research Act

Update on Charging for Research

NO CHARGING OF RESEARCH SUBJECTS

Background

- ❖ MOH commenced intensive review of various international regulations & consulted experts in research & clinical ethics

Outcome of MOH's Deliberation

- ❖ Charging of research subjects should not be allowed.
- ❖ Reason : Based on the ethical principle that research generally involved modalities that have insufficient clinical effectiveness or safety data over conventional comparative treatments
- ❖ This is in line with the opinions of experts in research & clinical ethics
- ❖ Similar in approach to current practice of not charging patients in clinical trials involving medicines

CLARIFICATION ON CHARGING

Charging for Research

- ❖ Although research subjects cannot be charged, the cost of research can still be charged to sponsors or funders.
- ❖ If a patient is enrolled in research and concurrently being treated in the hospital or medical clinic for his medical condition using approved standard treatments, the treatment component and other related patient care costs (e.g. *cost of hospital stay, cost of medication or nursing for existing medical condition*) can be charged to the patient but not the 'research component'.

WHEN WILL THIS NO-CHARGING POLICY OF RESEARCH SUBJECTS BE IMPLEMENTED?

- ❖ These controls will be promulgated in the second half of 2017 as a Code of Ethics for all research institutions, researchers and institutional review boards to comply with.





MINISTRY OF HEALTH
SINGAPORE

Thank you!