NATIONAL

409/NDA/DPS/06/2021



AUTHORITY

28th June 2021

CIRCULAR NO. 043

Attention: Sponsors and Principal Investigators.

National Drug Authority Statement on Conduct of Clinical Trials during the COVID-19 lockdown

The National Drug Authority would like to issue the following guidance during this time of disruption of clinical trial activities due to the ongoing second wave of COVID-19 in Uganda.

- 1. In compliance with the Presidential directive as well as the Ministry of Health guidance, the Clinical Trials Unit will continue to review applications and any critical submissions remotely. Any meetings whether initiated by NDA or our esteemed clients will be hosted and attended virtually on an agreed upon date.
- 2. To reduce exposure to the COVID-19 virus from surfaces like paper documents and also to facilitate continued review of the applications remotely, clients intending to submit their applications are requested to submit them <u>electronically</u> to <u>clinicaltrials@nda.or.ug</u>. Please ensure that any PDF documents are searchable to ease the review process. Please note that only <u>complete</u> submissions will be scheduled for evaluation in line with the usual NDA procedures.
- 3. The National Drug Authority encourages researchers to limit administrative submissions/notifications with no immediate bearing on participant safety or trial integrity during this period until the return to normalcy.
- 4. Principal Investigators and Sponsors remain responsible for putting in place mechanisms that are feasible to ensure safe continuity of clinical care and administration and monitoring of trial medicines in line with the principles of Good Clinical Practice.

For additional guidance, please refer to the National guidelines for conduct of research during the COVID-19 pandemic, July 2020 which are accessible at: https://www.unhro.org.ug/assets/images/resources/covidnationalguidelines.pdf

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OUR MISSION

Promoting and protecting public health through the effective regulation of human and animal medicines and healthcare products

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