



Resolution for Adoption of the Affordable Access Plan in Therapeutic Licensing by the University of California 01/07/2023

Author(s): Megan Curtin, Universities Allied for Essential Medicines (UAEM) at Cal President; Diego De Nault, UAEM Officer; Allisun Wiltshire, UAEM Officer

WHEREAS, the University of California Student’s Association serves as the official voice of students and advocates for accessibility, affordability, and quality across the UC System¹. Undergraduate students occupy a critical spot in the process of academic research resulting in the synthesis of new knowledge; and

WHEREAS, UC’s research into novel therapeutics has led to the discovery of new drugs which have the potential to benefit millions, many of these life-saving inventions are licensed to private companies that do not prioritize affordable access globally; and

WHEREAS, licensing represents a key site of leverage in establishing policies and methods of enforcement, ensuring that industry partners carry out the manufacture and distribution of therapeutics in a way that assures the most affordable outcome for members of the public who stand to benefit; and

WHEREAS, the Technology Development Group (TDG)² at the University of California Los Angeles was able to adopt an Affordable Access Plan (AAP)³ in 2020 following a campaign by student advocacy group Universities Allied for Essential Medicines and the UN-backed, global Non-Profit Medicines Patent Pool⁴ protesting the cost of Xtandi, a prostate cancer drug, in India⁵; and

WHEREAS, the AAP is included in all TDG exclusive licenses which apply to LMICs , it requires, upon therapeutic approval by the FDA or EMA, the delivery of a plan by the licensee to the UCLA Regents outlining how the licensee intends to support affordable access in Low-Middle Income Countries and in countries which have been designated Non-Commercialized Zones; and

WHEREAS, the licensee does not provide a plan, they must present an argument in good faith

¹ <https://ucsa.org/>

² <https://tdg.ucla.edu/about>

³ <https://regents.universityofcalifornia.edu/regmeet/dec20/h12.pdf>

⁴ <https://medicinespatentpool.org/>

⁵ <https://www.thinkglobalhealth.org/article/student-led-activism-transforming-access-medicines-movement>



to the University Regents as to why a plan is infeasible; should the Regents decide that an affordable access plan is reasonable and desired, the licensee is required to present one within three months of meeting. Following the approval of a plan, Progress Meetings requested by The Regents must also be attended by the licensee where they report on the implementation status of their affordable access plan. The UCLA plan also requires that—to the extent that confidentiality allows—a version of affordable access plans be provided for the Regents to make available to third parties. Therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the University of California Student’s Association urges the University of California Board of Regents to adopt the Affordable Access Plan as a universal licensing mechanism across all University of California campuses to align current policies with those of UCLA so that therapeutics licensed to private companies are accessible to vulnerable communities in Low-Middle Income Countries; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the University of California Student’s Association urges the University to work with third party, non-profit organizations, such as Medicines Patent Pool, during the process of updating its policies in order to ensure transparency; and be it finally

RESOLVED, that the University of California Student’s Association also urges UC to take a leadership role in expanding access to therapeutics by working to establish novel methods of licensing which go beyond what has previously been attempted at UCLA and other universities.

RESOLVED, that the University of California Student’s Association encourages the University of California Board of Regents to adopt the Affordable Access Plan as a universal licensing mechanism across all University of California campuses as a leader amongst institutions prioritizing access to life-saving medicines.



University of California Student Association
1020 12th St., Suite #232
Sacramento, CA 95814
510-834-8272 | www.uca.org
