



October 23, 2017

Dear Science Advisory Board Members,

We welcome your participation of the Science Advisory Board (SAB) meeting held on the November 6-7, 2017 to review the science conducted at Food and Drug Administration's National Center for Toxicological Research (NCTR). The SAB is comprised of eminent scientists in their fields and conducts external reviews of NCTR's research programs to provide independent scientific guidance, technical advice, and recommendations on the strategic direction and mission relevance to the NCTR leadership and program staff. It is anticipated that the SAB will provide objective advice to the NCTR Director, researchers and senior staff on the strengths and perceived weaknesses of each aspect of the research program. We would like you to focus on the following:

1. Research projects proposed at NCTR are in response to requests from the regulatory centers and/or are initiated by Principal Investigators and conducted by Senior Scientists with the assistance of Staff Fellows and Postdoctoral Fellows. Thus, these projects are critical to the success of NCTR's mission and goals, and the quality of the science must be state-of-the-art and worthy of publication in peer-reviewed journals. What is the SAB's evaluation of the research being conducted?
2. Provide advice as to how NCTR may improve horizon-scanning for emerging sciences and comprehensive safety assessment approaches.

In addition, the SAB should identify and discuss critical emerging regulatory, research, scientific issues, trends and needs in relation to the research capabilities of the NCTR. Feedback will be given in open session except for those areas that impact personnel. The latter will be given in closed sessions.

We look forward to your visit and your review of the science at NCTR.

Sincerely,

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