



Lausanne, April 8, 2020

**Subject: Invitation to participate as a local investigator in a multicenter national clinical study focusing on the nutritional status of hospitalized patients with COVID-19.**

Dear colleague,

On behalf the investigation team of the CHUV at the University of Lausanne, we kindly invite you to participate as a local investigator in a multicenter nation clinical research project "INCOVO study: Impact of Nutritional Status on COVID-19 infection Outcomes". A short synopsis of the study is attached to this letter for your confidential information.

At present, risk factors for severe pneumonia associated with SARS Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) are still under investigation. Although malnutrition is a recognized risk factor for compromised outcomes in patients with pulmonary infections, data about the nutritional status of COVID-19 infected patients and associated outcomes are scarce. Therefore, the aim of this study is to determine the relationship between nutritional status as a potential predictor of severe forms of COVID-19 infection/pneumonia and associated outcomes.

Given the recent request for application announcement by the Swiss National Foundation for Science (SNFS) to support studies on COVID-19, this project could be the subject of a national grant application.

As a recognized expert the field of clinical nutrition, we would be delighted to collaborate with you and your colleagues as a project partner and site investigator. It is our conviction that a collaborative approach would strongly enhance the value and impact of this study, and provide an unique opportunity to address this important question.

If you are interested to take part to this project, please contact the principal investigator Dr. Mohammed Barigou or the co-principal investigators Prof. Peter Kopp listed below. Of course, we would be delighted to discuss any question or suggestion directly with you.

Thank you in advance for your time and consideration  
Sincerely yours,

Dr.med. (10)(2e)  
Chef de clinique  
Division of Endocrinology, Diabetes and  
Metabolism  
CHU Vaudois, Lausanne  
Mail : (10)(2e) @chuv.ch  
Tel : +41 (10)(2e)

Professor Peter Kopp  
Médecin chef  
Division of Endocrinology, Diabetes and  
Metabolism  
CHU Vaudois, Lausanne  
Mail: (10)(2e) @chuv.ch  
Tel: +41 (10)(2e)