DATE: May 15, 2009

FROM: Ian McGowan, MD, PhD, FRCP

TO: MTN-004 Clinical Research Sites

SUBJECT: MTN-004 Letter of Amendment #01, dated 15 May 2009

The information contained in the accompanying Letter of Amendment (LoA) impacts the MTN-004 study and must be forwarded to your Institutional Review Board (IRB) and/or Ethics Committee (EC) as soon as possible for their information and review. Site IRBs/ECs are responsible for assessing whether and how the changes included in the LoA are communicated to study participants. All IRB/EC requirements must be followed. This LoA and all associated IRB/EC correspondence should be filed in essential documents files for MTN-004.

The primary purpose of the LoA is to update MTN-004, Version 3.0 to include the Pitt CRS, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, as an additional study site. Another purpose is to clarify the collection and long-term storage of the plasma archive specimens in the Sample Informed Consent Forms (Enrollment and Storage and Future Testing of Specimens). Currently, participants give approximately 30 mL of blood at the Screening 1 Visit, Enrollment Visit, One-Week Clinic Visit, Two-Week Clinic Visit, and at the Three-Week Clinic/Early Termination Visit. At the Enrollment Visit and Two-Week Clinic Visit, however, a portion of this blood is used for the plasma archive specimen only if participants sign the consent document for Storage of Specimens, as noted in Appendix 1. The Sample Informed Consent Form (Storage and Future Testing of Specimens) explains to participants that extra blood and cervical fluid leftover from their study visits will be kept and used for future research (See Appendix VII). Although, MTN-004 collects sufficient blood volume (30mL) to account for participants who consent to the storage and future testing of specimens, this specimen for the plasma archive is not "leftover" as indicated in the SIC in Version 3.0 of the protocol. The Sample Informed Consent documents have been updated to clarify that the plasma archive will only be stored if the participant consents to long-term storage.

It is important to note that the purpose of this change is to fortify the consent by clarifying the intent of the language; the team feels that it is not a fundamental change to the communiqué of the document. As this LoA does not impact the overall risk-to-benefit profile of study participation, the team respectfully requests confirmation from your IRB that re-consenting and/or destroying specimens from current or previous study participants is unnecessary.

Please contact the MTN CORE if you have any questions or concerns about the information contained in this memo or in the LoA.