[SITE PI NAME]  
[SITE] Principal Investigator, the PEPPER trial   
[INSTITUTION]  
[ADDRESS]

Dear Colleague,

The [DEPARTMENT AND SITE NAME] is participating in a federally funded, 20,000 patient multi-site, pragmatic clinical trial: **Comparative Effectiveness of Pulmonary Embolism Prevention after Hip and Knee Replacement: Balancing Safety and Effectiveness (PEPPER).** The trial is funded by the Patient Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI), which was established by the Affordable Care Act.

We are writing to bring this collaborative research effort to your attention since some of your patients may mention their participation to you. We appreciate your support and endorsement of this important clinical trial.

The study aims to compare the effectiveness of three of the most commonly used anticoagulants – aspirin, warfarin, and rivaroxaban – in reducing pulmonary embolism and deep vein thrombosis among patients who have elected to undergo primary or revision hip or knee joint replacement surgery. Each of these drugs is endorsed for use by the clinical practice guidelines of the American College of Chest Physicians (ACCP) as well as the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons (AAOS), however evidence is lacking as to which anticoagulant is best. Participation involves random assignment to receive one of these FDA approved agents for four weeks after operation, completing instruments to collect hip/knee function before/after surgery, and the collection of patient-reported outcomes at specified post-surgical time points. We are only interested in clinically meaningful events as outcome endpoints; no additional testing or screening is involved.

Surgery and postoperative care will follow local standard of care protocols. Please be assured that your patient’s safety is our priority. Patients with contraindications to one of the medications are randomized to one of the remaining two drugs. Patients with contraindications to any two anticoagulants are excluded from the study.

Additional information about this study is available from the PEPPER website (pepperstudy.org), PCORI (www.pcori.org) or the NIH/DHHS clinical trials registry (www.clinicaltrials.gov, NCT#02810704). If you would like to speak directly with a member of the study team, please contact one of the following:

***[SITE]***

[PI NAME], Principal Investigator [EMAIL, PHONE NO]  
[COORD NAME], Clinical Research Coordinator [EMAIL, PHONE NO]

***Dartmouth Health, PEPPER Clinical Coordinating Center***

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Carol Lambourne, PhD, Program Director carol.a.lambourne@hitchcock.org, 603-308-9128

Yours faithfully,

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| --- | --- |
| [PI SIGNATURE] | cid:image003.jpg@01D29748.70BFE770 |

[PI NAME] Vincent D. Pellegrini, MD  
PI, [SITE] PI, The PEPPER Study