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The Draft Global Strategy and Plan of Action recognizes that there have been significant advances in biomedical science. To a large extent, these advances have been realized through research performed at universities and academic institutions. In order to effectively harness these advances so that they benefit the developing world, universities need to implement licensing strategies that ensure the unfettered transfer of university-developed innovations. The Draft Global Strategy and Plan of Action does not currently address the importance of these licensing strategies. Our response addresses this omission.

The Philadelphia Consensus Statement outlines three main intellectual property management strategies when university-owned intellectual property is necessary for the development of medicine or a health-related technology:

- Include licensing terms in exclusive technology transfer agreements that ensure low-cost access to health-related innovations in the developing world.
- Develop a transparent, case-by-case global access strategy to ensure access to health-related technologies. This is particularly important for biologicals, complex macromolecules and healthcare devices where generic production is not always possible.
- Carve out a type III disease research exemption for any patents held or licenses executed by the university.

We strongly recommend that all research universities adopt equitable access licensing strategies. In parallel, government funders of university research should move to condition grants on invoking these licensing strategies for publically funded technologies.