

Note to Vendors and Commercial Service Labs Providing Support for ABRF Research Group Studies

ABRF Research Group (RG) Studies are conducted for the benefit of our members and the field at large. The studies help our members evaluate their technical level relative to their colleagues, provide education in techniques and strategies to which they normally might not be exposed, and give an overview of the current capabilities of the “average” laboratory in carrying out a challenging analysis.

The ABRF welcomes and appreciates any support that vendors and commercial laboratories are willing to provide for ABRF RG studies. In order to help ABRF maintain its reputation as an unbiased and scientifically independent organization, ABRF asks that you please read the following guidelines:

- The RG will maintain scientific autonomy in the origination, formulation, execution, interpretation, and publication of its study.
- Primary data from the study remains confidential with the RG. The corporate donor will have access to data placed in the public domain.
- If the corporate donor cites the ABRF RG study and its conclusions in its marketing, the corporate donor agrees to also indicate that the collaboration does not imply ABRF endorsement of the corporate donor.
- The ABRF brand will remain associated with any commercial product that may result from the collaboration, even if intellectual property is sought by the corporate donor.
- Vendors are strongly encouraged to distribute potential publications to the ABRF Executive Board and RG Chairperson for comments regarding compliance with these Guidelines.

***Recipient:* We recommend that this document be distributed to the appropriate marketing and senior personnel in the company to ensure compliance. A copy of this document (Vendor ABRF Study Participation Corporate RG Support Guidelines.pdf) can be found at www.abrf.org under the Forms and Documents menu.**

Once again, ABRF wishes to thank you for your support of its Research Groups and also for your help in maintaining the reputation of ABRF as unbiased and scientifically independent!