

May 19, 2021

Dr. Kevin Hedges  
emailed to [kevinhedges.kh@gmail.com](mailto:kevinhedges.kh@gmail.com)

Dr. Hedges,

The Research Integrity Policy requires that my Office conduct an inquiry as to whether a submitted concern is deemed a responsible allegation under the Research Integrity Policy. You wrote regarding concerns with the responsible conduct of research in the study “Medical Masks vs N95 Respirators to Prevent 2019 Novel Coronavirus Disease (COVID – 19) in Healthcare Workers: A Randomized Trial”, Principal Investigator Dr. M. Loeb.

An inquiry was initiated to assess whether HIREB had considered TCSP and whether it was felt that the study was still in equipoise. This inquiry is now complete.

My Office has reviewed communications received from you as well as the response (attached) from HIREB. At this time, it has been determined that this concern does not meet the definition of a responsible allegation under the Research Integrity Policy. No further investigation or action will be taken under the Research Integrity Policy.

Best regards,



Kimberly Mason  
Academic Integrity Officer  
Office of Academic Integrity

cc. B. Davis, University Legal  
K. Mossman, Vice President, Research  
Secretariat on Responsible Conduct of Research