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LOCAL RESEARCH COMPANY LANDS COVETED COVID-19 STUDY NOLA Research Works Actively Recruiting Symptomatic Patients

NEW ORLEANS, LA, July 29 --- NOLA Research Works, an independent, integrated clinical trials research organization in New Orleans, has been invited to participate in an exciting study by pharmaceutical giant, Eli Lilly and Company. BLAZE-1 Study is designed to test how effective the antibody medicine LY-CoV555 is as a treatment for COVID-19. The study focuses on patients who have tested positive and have mild to moderate symptoms associated with the illness. With a quota of one hundred patient volunteers, NOLA Research Works is actively recruiting participants for the study and urges the New Orleans community to embrace the opportunity in earnest.

In pursuit of a cure for COVID-19, companies like Eli Lilly are aggressively testing a variety of drug therapies. Lilly's BLAZE-1 Study features the investigational antibody medicine, LY-CoV555, an antibody from a blood sample taken from one of the first patients who recovered from COVID-19, and is specifically designed to neutralize the virus. "This antibody therapy may have potential for the prevention of spread and be a viable treatment of COVID-19," said Dr. Corey Hebert, NOLA Research Works' Principal Investigator for the study. "It may be particularly important for groups hardest hit by the disease such as the elderly and those with compromised immune systems," Hebert continued. In June, Eli Lilly's Chief Scientific Officer, Daniel Skovronsky indicated that one of Eli Lilly's antibody treatments could be available for use as early as September of 2020. NOLA Research Works is charged with recruiting volunteer patients into the study to collect powerful data that could contribute to the emergency use authorization of this promising COVID-19 treatment.

The Phase 2 study requires maximum patient participation on an accelerated timeline. Since inking the deal with Lilly last Wednesday, NOLA Research Works' CEO, Kaye Doiron, has managed her team of research, medical, marketing and operations specialists in preparation for release of the study to the community. "We are prepared to enroll one hundred patient volunteers into the study over the next two weeks," said Doiron. "Our operation is poised to screen and administer Eli Lilly's promising investigational treatment to qualified participants in a calculated manner. We are calling on the Greater New Orleans community to embrace this opportunity so that together we can play an important role in finding a cure for COVID-19," Doiron continued.



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With one required visit at the study site and the option for the remainder of the assessments to be performed at home or by phone, Eli Lilly's BLAZE-1 Study protocol is designed to process participating patients in a swift, efficient, and safe manner. With the objective of advancing the research for the antibody treatment to Phase 3, Lilly anticipates seeking FDA approval of Phase 2 by early August. "If we meet our quota in Phase 2, we are all but assured participation in Phase 3 of the Study," said Kaye Doiron. "Treating what could be hundreds of COVID-19 patients in New Orleans with an antibody would have tremendous impact on our entire community. It would hopefully elevate the awareness about the benefits of clinical trial research across the State as well as spotlight the true heroes of New Orleans' impressive healthcare industry. Most importantly, it would directly benefit the people of New Orleans and have a global impact in the race to find a treatment for Covid-19," Doiron concluded.

Eligible patient volunteers who complete the study will be reimbursed a total of \$850 for their commitment and contribution. Payments made to volunteers is standard practice in clinical trials studies with the pre-established amounts set forth by the contracting pharmaceutical company and ethics review boards, in this case Eli Lilly and WIRB. Symptomatic volunteers interested in participating in the study will be pre-screened for eligibility, including a COVID-19 rapid test nasal swab prior to being enrolled. Eligibility criteria include adults who have tested positive within three days of their first official visit, have mild or moderate COVID-19 symptoms and are in agreement to study procedures. A complete and comprehensive overview of the study, including all criteria for participation, is detailed in the attached *BLAZE-1 Study Fact Sheet*, and is also available at the study's website listed below. For more information or to register and book an appointment to be pre-screened, go to COVIDstudyNOLA.com or call their dedicated COVID-19 clinical trial hotline at 504-408-1126.

ABOUT NOLA RESEARCH WORKS

NOLA Research Works is an independent, integrated clinical trials research company in New Orleans that is dedicated to setting the gold standard for patient education, patient care, and clinical research conduct. Founded in 2009, the boutique research firm contracts with pharmaceutical companies to collect the data on the safety and efficacy of drugs, medical devices and other therapies in human populations. NOLA Research Works, LLC, with its sister research company, Women Under Study, LLC have as many as fifteen active studies at any one time. Doiron's most recent expansion boasts Research Works Inc., co-founded with Julia Taravella. Founder of Rare Trait Hope Fund, a non-profit dedicated to finding a cure for rare neurological diseases, Julia Taravella is a trail blazer in gene therapy research. Research Works has a mission to bring more key thought leader and research experts like Dr. Corey Hebert back into the research field by providing a central trial management hub while continuing to pioneer a cure for rare diseases, including gene therapy research and development. To learn more about NOLA Research Works and Women Under Study, please visit www.research.works.



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Lilly is a global health care leader that unites caring with discovery to create medicines that make life better for people around the world. We were founded more than a century ago by a man committed to creating high-quality medicines that meet real needs, and today we remain true to that mission in all our work. Across the globe, Lilly employees work to discover and bring life-changing medicines to those who need them, improve the understanding and management of disease, and give back to communities through philanthropy and volunteerism. To learn more about Lilly, please visit us at lilly.com and lilly.com/newsroom.

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