Date: 17 July 2018

To whom my concern

The head of the Obstetrics and Gynecology department approved the conduction of the study entitled; **Heme-bound iron (Optifer®) in treatment of pregnancy associated iron deficiency anemia** (Ibrahim A. Abdelazim), in the Obstetrics and Gynecology department of Ahmadi Hospital, Kuwait Oil Company (KOC), Kuwait.

The study is comparative study and will be conducted in the Obstetrics and Gynecology department, Ahmadi hospital, KOC, Kuwait from June 2019 till December 2019; to compare the efficacy and tolerability the heme-bound iron (HIO) Optifer® to ferrous Fumarate (Trihmeic®) in treatment of pregnancy associated iron deficiency anemia (IDA).

Pregnant women with pregnancy associated IDA and hemoglobin ≤10 gm/dl (8-10 gm/dl) will included in this study after informed consent. Studied women will receive either HIO (Optifer®) tablets twice daily (study group) or Trihmeic® 350 mg oral ferrous fumarate once daily (control group) for at least ≥ 3 months for correction of pregnancy associated IDA.

Inclusion criteria includes; pregnant women ≥ 20 years old, 14-26 weeks` gestation, with hemoglobin ≤ 10 gm/dl (8-10 gm/dl). Pregnant women with anemia other than IDA and/or received blood transfusion during current pregnancy will excluded from this study.

The aim of the study is to compare the efficacy and tolerability the heme-bound iron (HIO) Optifer® to ferrous Fumarate (Trihmeic®) in treatment of pregnancy associated iron deficiency anemia (IDA).

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