**To whom my concern**

The heads of the Obstetrics and Gynecology department No.[1] of West Kazakhstan Medical University (WKZMU) and Ahmadi Hospital, Kuwait Oil Company (KOC) approved the conduction of the study entitled; **Heme-bound iron (Optifer®) in treatment of pregnancy associated iron deficiency anemia**, in the Obstetrics and Gynecology departments of West Kazakhstan Medical University (WKZMU) No.[1] and Ahmadi Hospital, Kuwait Oil Company (KOC), Kuwait.

The study is comparative study and will be conducted in the Obstetrics and Gynecology departments, of West Kazakhstan Medical University (WKZMU) No.[1] and 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 iron deficiency anemia (IDA) and hemoglobin ≤10 gm/dl (8-10 gm/dl) will included in this study after informed consent. Studied women will receive either heme-bound iron (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 iron deficiency anemia (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 iron deficiency anemia (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).

**Head of the OBGYN No. 1**
**West Kazakhstan Medical University (WKZMU).**
**S. Shikanova**
PhD, Professor of OBGYN

**Acting Head of the OBGYN**
**Ahmadi Hospital, KOC**
**Ibrahim A. Abdelazim**
MD, Professor of OBGYN