



जवाहरलाल नेहरू उन्नत वैज्ञानिक अनुसंधान केंद्र

जक्कूर, बेंगलुरु - 560064 कर्नाटक, भारत

विज्ञान एवं प्रौद्योगिकी विभाग, भारत सरकार के अधीन एक स्वायत्त संस्थान
सम विश्वविद्यालय संस्थान

Jawaharlal Nehru Centre For Advanced Scientific Research

Jakkur, Bengaluru - 560064 Karnataka, INDIA

An autonomous institution under Department of Science and Technology, Govt. of India.
An Institution Deemed-to-be-University

To whom it may concern

Sub: Dr. Amit Dutt's nomination for Sun Pharma Science Foundation Research Awards in Medical Sciences- Basic Research

Dear Members of the Selection Committee,

Dr. Amit Dutt is an established biomedical scientist who has extensively contributed to our understanding of the pathobiology and genomics of epithelial cancers, and adept at translating his discoveries into real-world benefits for patients. His work bridges the gap between fundamental research and clinical application, demonstrably impacting both academic knowledge and cancer care.

Dr. Dutt's research has demonstrably improved lung cancer treatment affordability in India. He created a super affordable way to analyze lung cancer mutations in conventional and NGS based platforms making targeted therapies more accessible. This innovation has been widely adopted at the Tata Memorial Centre thoracic unit, significantly improving accessibility to crucial diagnostic information for lung cancer patients. More recently, Dr. Dutt's work has led to setting a clinical trial for an alternate dosing strategy of EGFR tyrosine kinase inhibitor Osimertinib that could transform lung cancer care and treatment. Dr. Dutt's contribution in other epithelial cancers in gallbladder, rhabdomyosarcomas, breast, and other cancer have led to similar translation into clinics. Specifically, he established a link between bacteria and tongue cancer, identifying *Fusobacterium* as a potential indicator of poor prognosis. More recently, his team discovered UBE3C-LRP5, first novel fusion transcript with potential as a therapeutic target. His multidisciplinary approach further integrates various factors identified in his prior research using artificial intelligence to predict lymph node metastasis, with clinical trial underway to validate the metric.

Dr. Dutt fosters a vibrant research environment, nurturing the next generation of cancer biologists. His research program serves as a solid platform for training the next generation of cancer biologists in India. He has served as a mentor to 14 Ph.D. students, eight have successfully earned their degrees. He has trained 40 odd basic and clinical research fellows who could successfully join leading institutes across the globe to pursue academic programs. Additionally, he has provided invaluable guidance to six postdoctoral fellows. This dedication to mentorship ensures a bright future for cancer research in India.

Of specific note and relevance, Dr. Dutt's expertise in interpreting molecular tumor reports has established him as a leading authority among Indian oncologists across hospital groups. For the past four years, he has participated in over 150 weekly molecular tumor boards, providing critical insights impacting decision on over 1,000 patient cases. This invaluable contribution has directly influenced treatment plans, demonstrably improving patient care across India. His recognition extends beyond his lab, with appointments to the Scientific Advisory Committees of six esteemed academic organizations.



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In conclusion, Dr. Dutt exemplifies the successful integration of basic and translational cancer research. His work impacts both the development of new diagnostic tools and treatment strategies, while simultaneously nurturing future generations of researchers. His dedication to patient care, evidenced by his work on cost-effective diagnostics and participation in molecular tumor boards, solidifies his position as a leader in the field.

For these reasons, I strongly recommend Dr. Amit Dutt's candidature for the selection of Sun Pharma Science Foundation Research Awards in Medical Sciences- Basic Research with my highest possible enthusiasm.

Thank you

Regards

Tapas



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