

To,
The Selection Committee
Sun Pharma Science Foundation
New Delhi, 110001

Subject: Justification for Sponsoring the Nomination of **Udita Jindal** for the Sun Pharma Science Foundation Science Scholar Fellowship

Dear Members of the Selection Committee,

I am writing to provide my full support and justification for sponsoring the nomination of Udita Jindal for the Sun Pharma Science Foundation Science Scholar Fellowship, who is working as a research scholar in the Department of cancer Biology at CSIR-CDRI.

Udita joined PhD programme at CSIR-CDRI in August 2021, Her PhD is supervised and co-supervised by me and Dr. Neeraj Jain, respectively. Her preliminary research area is identification of the characteristic markers for stemness and chemoresistance in Lymphoma. In this aspect, she has shown remarkable willingness and sighted the ultimate importance of sample collection of lymphoma patients from various institutions across the nation. She also established co-culture between stromal cells and the patient derived tumor cells, which is an ideal condition to explore the interactions between tumor microenvironment and makes an ideal model for drug screening of potential therapeutic agents. Besides this, she is also working on two independent projects, one of them is an international grant by American Society of Haematology. She possesses a good scientific temperament and is very observant and inquisitive when faced with novel challenges. Her strong foundation in laboratory practices, coupled with her intellectual curiosity, enabled her to rapidly acquire new skills and knowledge. She now has an expertise in molecular, cell biology, animal handling and Flow cytometry-based assays.

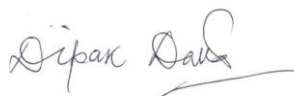
Udita has also actively participated and volunteered in various workshops, seminars, conferences enhancing her professional and academic development and is an effective communicator there for developing good networks among peers in those conferences. She has successfully mentored one project associate and two Masters dissertation students, and is an executive member of CSIR-CDRI AcSIR Science club, which shows her exemplary leadership and teamwork skills. She has also contributed to a review article published in the Journal of Hematology and Oncology with a group of researchers from Ohio State University. She has also participated in a collaborative drug testing project, generating results suitable for publication.

Apart from her independent project she is very much dedicated in maintaining lab arrangements, she takes active participation in arranging and ordering lab reagents and equipments, and she constantly deals with vendors to procure better stuff for lab, and maintains records of lab reagents and resources.

I strongly believe that Udit Jindal is highly deserving of the Sun Pharma Science Foundation Science Scholar Fellowship. Her academic achievements, research temperament and leadership quality make her an ideal candidate for this honour. This will motivate Udit to continue to excel in her research endeavours and I strongly believe she will be an important asset to scientific community.

Thank you for considering this nomination.

Sincerely,



Dipak Datta, Ph.D
Senior Principal Scientist, Professor & HOD
Cancer Biology Division
LSS-006
CSIR-Central Drug Research Institute & AcSIR
B.S. 10/1, Sector-10, Jankipuram Extension
Sitapur Road, Lucknow-226031, INDIA