



सी.एस.आई.आर.-केन्द्रीय औषधि अनुसंधान संस्थान, लखनऊ
(वैज्ञानिक तथा औद्योगिक अनुसंधान परिषद्)
सेक्टर 10, जानकीपुरम विस्तार, सीतापुर रोड, लखनऊ – 226 031 (भारत)
CSIR - Central Drug Research Institute
(Council of Scientific & Industrial Research)
Sector 10, Janakipuram Extension, Sitapur Road, Lucknow - 226 031 (India)



August 28, 2023

To,
The Selection Committee
Sun Pharma Science Foundation Awards

Dear Sir/Madam;

I wish to nominate Dr. Aamir Nazir, Senior Principal Scientist, CSIR-Central Drug Research Institute (CDRI), Lucknow, for the Sun Pharma Science Foundation Award in Medical Science (Basic Science). My justification for nominating him is based on two key strengths:

1. He has made seminal contributions to the field of fundamental research in neurodegenerative diseases employing genetically tractable model system *C. elegans* and has established a *C. elegans* facility of national importance which is used by researchers of multiple research institutions/universities across the country.
2. He is a "National GLP Compliance Monitoring Authority (NGCMA-DST)" trained Study Director, who has significantly contributed to Translational Research via conducting Regulatory Toxicology studies of translation-driven molecules.

Dr. Nazir's work is characterized by intellectual rigor, originality and innovativeness. His work employing transgenic *C. elegans* strains expressing "human" proteins has provided an understanding of key biological questions including the identification of a novel circular RNA molecule, novel peptide conjugates with relevance to neurodegenerative diseases and a novel Insulin degrading enzyme in *C. elegans*.

His scientific work spans the range from basic to translational research. To decipher the multifactorial nature of neurodegenerative diseases, he has recently identified novel micro RNA molecules that modulate various aspects of protein clearance through their down-stream effector molecules. Further, he is taking the novel approach of understanding how mechanisms of neuronal development could be harnessed for inducing neuronal repair within distressed and aged cells. On the translational side, he has successfully collaborated with researchers from other disciplines to develop key technologies such as fluorescent probes for lipid droplets and labile iron pools.

As a study director for numerous Regulatory Toxicology studies, he has demonstrated a keen understanding of regulatory requirements, adherence to the highest quality standards and played a key role in understanding and interpreting toxicity results.

Dr Nazir is an excellent team player and a valued member of the CDRI scientific community. I strongly recommend him for this prestigious award.

Sincerely,

(Dr. Radha Rangarajan)

Director, CSIR-CDRI