

**Signed** statement from the applicant to the effect that the research work under reference has not been given any award in the past. The applicant should also indicate the extent of the contribution of others associated with the research and he/she should clearly identify his/her achievements (not to exceed 500 words)

I declare that the research work under this award has not been given any award in the past.

I confirm that the work submitted is my own, except where work, which has formed part of jointly authored publications, has been included. All the co-authors worked either in the projects in which I was PI or in the case of outside the organization, I myself contributed in experimental as well as writing work [Am J Trop Med Hyg. 2019, 2020].

Recognition as an expert from apex lab from WHO Global Leprosy Programme and National Leprosy Eradication Programme, Govt of India: My research work, especially on emerging antimicrobial drug resistance in leprosy has been recognized by Global Leprosy Programme, WHO, Indian Council of Medical Research and later on National Leprosy Eradication Programme of Govt. of India. [Cambau E, Saunderson P, Matsuoka M, Cole ST, Kai M, Suffys P, Rosa PS, Williams D, Gupta UD, Lavania M, Cardona-Castro N, Miyamoto Y, et al. WHO surveillance network of antimicrobial resistance in leprosy. Antimicrobial resistance in leprosy: results of the first prospective open survey conducted by a WHO surveillance network for the period 2009-15. Clin Microbiol Infect. 2018]. In the Sentinel Surveillance of drug resistance in leprosy I myself recognized as Expert and contributed in research work related to antimicrobial resistance from 2008-2020. The contributions done by other co-authors in my research articles was properly given as per their involvement in that particular work.

In the research award, most of the articles conceived, attributed, experimentally designed by myself as Principal Investigator in funded projects and manuscripts was written by myself only. Co-authors assisted in experimentation part as a project staff or Co-PI in the specific projects.

*Mallike Lavani*

*PUNE*

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