

August 1, 2023

To,  
The Selection Committee,  
Sun Pharma Science Scholar Award 2023,  
Sun Pharma Science Foundation, New Delhi.

Subject: Justification letter for sponsoring the nomination for Sun Pharma Science Scholar Award 2023

Dear Members of the Selection Committee,

I am writing to humbly nominate myself, Jeevan Patra, a PhD candidate in Pharmaceutical Sciences at the University of Petroleum and Energy Studies (UPES), for the prestigious Sun Pharma Science Scholar Award 2023. As a nominee for this esteemed accolade, I am honored to provide a detailed justification for my research, which focuses on the optimization of drug molecules as falcipain inhibitors for the treatment of malaria.

The emergence of drug-resistant strains of Plasmodium has intensified the need for novel and effective antimalarial agents. The primary objective of my research has been to design selective dual falcipain inhibitors, with the ultimate goal to progressing them to clinical trial studies. Despite decades of research efforts, no falcipain inhibitor has successfully advanced to the clinical phase. My work addresses this long-standing challenge and presents a potential solution by optimization of drug molecules as novel class falcipain inhibitors which is a path-breaking approach. The developed drug-like candidates with potent falcipain inhibitory activity brings us one step closer to pave the way for future clinical trials, offering hope for a breakthrough.


If successful, my research has the potential to make a significant impact on global health by providing an innovative and cost-effective treatment option for malaria patients.

I sincerely believe that my research work aligns with the core values and objectives of the Sun Pharma Research Awards, which aim to recognize outstanding contributions in pharmaceutical research and foster innovation in the healthcare industry.

Please find the sign and seal from my nominator, Prof. Neeraj Mahindroo, attesting to this nomination and his endorsement of my research work.

Yours sincerely,

Jeevan Patra  
PhD, UPES, Dehradun  
India

Nominator:   
Prof Neeraj Mahindroo  
Professor and Dean,  
School of Health Sciences and Technology,  
Dr Vishwanath Karad MIT-World Peace University (MITWPU),  
124 Paud Road, Kothrud, Pune 411038 India  
Email: [neeraj.mahindroo@mitwpu.edu.in](mailto:neeraj.mahindroo@mitwpu.edu.in)