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आई सी एम आर - राष्ट्रीय प्रजनन स्वास्थ्य
अनुसंधान संस्थान
स्वास्थ्य अनुसंधान विभाग, स्वास्थ्य और परिवार
कल्याण मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार

ICMR - National Institute for Research in
Reproductive Health
Department of Health Research, Ministry of Health
and Family Welfare, Government of India

24th September 2021

I am pleased to write a recommendation for Ms. Sanketa Raut in support to her nomination for Sun Pharma Science Foundation Science Scholar Award. I have known Ms. Sanketa for four years now and I am quite satisfied with her performance and output. I can say she is one of the most dedicated students I've ever seen in my career as a mentor.

She joined my lab, Dept. of Neuroendocrinology as a Junior Research Fellow on a DBT funded project under my guidance in August 2017. She is very curious about learning new things, has a sharp mind, and works very skillfully and efficiently. She has a good knowledge about concepts in biology and shows patience to thoroughly understand new things. Apart from being good at what she does, she is also very disciplined and sincere with her work and is always regular in my lab. Showing remarkable progress and a good scientific caliber, she joined as a Ph.D. student under my guidance in September 2018.

She worked very hard on the project, showing patience and diligence for experiment planning and execution. The research shows how Sertoli cells, carry out lipid metabolism regulated by sex hormones, the products of which can be used as energy substrates by the developing germ cells, which ultimately become mature sperms. In addition, novel pathways regulated by estrogen whose roles in germ cells are unexplored were also discovered. This is the first study to delineate the estrogen and androgen regulated genes in cell type specific manner under unperturbed conditions. Sanketa has two research publications out of this project as a first author in esteemed international journals. Based on leads obtained from this project, she is further studying the mechanism and the role of prolactin pathway in the testes as her Ph.D. thesis topic.

As a student, Sanketa is academically ambitious, enthusiastic, determined candidate with strong focus on her goal and has excellent problem solving abilities. She is hard working which can be seen in her overall academic performance. In the lab, she demonstrates excellent work ethics and interpersonal skills. Sanketa has participated actively in several workshops, conferences and presented her project work. She has also won 'Best poster award' for her poster presentation of this project at National Research Scholar's Meet, ACTREC, Navi Mumbai.

Apart from her PhD project, she willing works and contributes valuably to other projects in my lab and has co-authored four more publications. As a person, she is very friendly and easy to get along with, and developed a great work environment with everyone in the lab and is very helpful and encouraging towards her peers. She is highly ambitious and focused with a curiosity that I'm sure will one day take her to places. As a mentor, I can see her reaching great heights and achieving all her goals.

Getting this prestigious award by Sun Pharma will definitely push her ahead towards her goal. Having known her for the past 4 years, I can say she is a top-caliber student and I strongly recommend her nomination for Sun Pharma Science Foundation Science Scholar Award without any reservations.

Yours sincerely

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