



Nomination Letter- Dr. Teena Mohan

September 10, 2021

**Rajinder K. Jalali
Member Secretary
Sun Pharma Science Foundation**

Dear Dr. Jalali,

It is my great pleasure to nominate Dr. Teena Mohan for the prestigious Sun Pharma Science Foundation Research Awards-Basic Sciences, for the year 2021.

Dr. Mohan has worked in biomedical sciences, primarily focusing on various infectious diseases to understand the fundamental principles regulating host's immune functions. She has worked on various challenging projects based on influenza universal vaccines, antivirals, pathogenesis, surveillance, and diagnostics.

Her research has developed new biotechnologies using different adjuvants (Defensins, CpG ODNs, GPI-CCL28, GPI-IL-12, GPI-B7-1, HPV-16 peptides, genomic DNA, and CCL27) and vaccine delivery vehicles (PLGA microparticles, nanoparticles, virus-like particles; VLPs, and microneedle patches; MNPs) for diseases such as HIV-1, malaria, influenza, cervical cancer, and triple negative breast cancer and participated in developing diagnostic kits for malaria and chikungunya infections. She has also studied the coexistence of Th1/Th2 and Th17/Treg imbalances in patients with post-traumatic sepsis and the T cell profiles of HIV-1 infected populations.

Dr. Mohan investigated an HIV sequential immunization strategy with a panel of Env-enriched VLPs from HIV-1 clades A—E to generate broadly neutralizing antibody responses. She worked on various research to develop a universal influenza vaccine based on confirmation-stabilized tetrameric M2e nanoparticles, double-layered nanoparticles with HA stalk domains, and sequential immunization with various influenza HA. She also participated in other influenza vaccine projects, including research into the use of two-layered nanoclusters, protein nanoparticles containing fusion proteins of flagellin with conserved influenza epitopes, and microneedle patch delivery of 4M2e-tFliC fusion protein.

At CDC Headquarter (Atlanta, Georgia, USA), Dr. Mohan has participated in influenza virus surveillance and assessment of influenza virus susceptibility to FDA-approved and investigational anti-viral agents with the research interests in molecular virology, molecular immunology, and the interaction of the two, in the Molecular Epidemiology and Molecular Vaccine Virological teams.

Currently, in the Laboratory Preparedness and Response Branch (LPRB) at CDC, Dr. Mohan is working as Scientist V and LPRB-BAA Program Manager. Under this program, CDC is interested in the development and evaluation of innovative laboratory methods, tools, and strategies for deployment to the Laboratory Response Network for detection and characterization of existing and

novel pathogens that are associated with a biothreat event or could cause a novel emerging infectious disease outbreak and/or public health emergency. On behalf of the CDC LPRB-BAA program, she interacts/ communicates with the multiple external research project partners and collaborators. As Scientist V, she is also the in-charge to provide functional expertise in project coordination and expertise in laboratory data (microbiology, molecular biology, and DNA/RNA sequencing).

Dr. Mohan is the US Permanent resident and still holding Indian passport. I thank you for your consideration of her application, and please contact me if I can provide any further information.

With Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'B. Parekh'.

Bharat S. Parekh
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