

Professor Dr. Ahmed Kamal

FNASc

To whom it may concern

I am delighted to write the letter of support to Dr. Narayana Nagesh who is a nominee for the **Sun Pharma Science Foundation Research Award** for the year 2021. I know Dr. Nagesh for more than a decade, when he was a Scientist at CSIR-Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology (CCMB), Hyderabad, India. He has completed his doctorate in Chemistry from S. V. University, India and Post Doc at Northern Arizona University, Flagstaff, Arizona, USA. My research group collaborated with Dr. Nagesh in carrying out the biological studies related to research for new molecules that were designed and developed in our laboratory and published many research papers in various internationally reputed, peer reviewed journals.

The collaborative research work between the two laboratories was focus on the studies to understand the anticancer potential of several synthetic β -carboline molecules and their interaction with DNA using biophysical parameters, cell biology assays and various other relevant biological studies. He has visited University of Neuchatel, Neuchatal, Switzerland as part of the ISJPR programme in the year 2012, where he was involved in carrying out experiments using several modern bio-analytical techniques. This work has generated valuable data and it was published in a number of reputed journals. In the past, he has handled projects from Department of Science and Technology (DST).

His laboratory at CSIR-CCMB has several modern analytical equipments like NMR, FT-IR, UV-Vis, ESI-MS, SEM, TEM, DSC, CD, Fluorimeters, FACS and confocal microscopes etc., employing such tools. These studies he and his group members have generated high quality research data. He have been extremely useful in the characterization of synthetic biological complexes that has potential as newer anticancer molecules, and as well as nano-materials.

Recently his group at CSIR-CCMB has initiated some studies on the development of lateral flow paper devices for the detection of HCV in human blood. Recently, for developing a prototype paper based microfluidic device, his team received funding from Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), India. The aim of the project is to develop a microfluidic paper device for the identification of HCV in human blood using appropriate aptamers immobilized over paper and gold nanoparticles.

Dr. Nagesh is dedicated, sincere and a hardworking researcher. He interacts well with his colleagues, has good communication and demonstration skills. Based on his commitment and vast experience and keeping his abilities in mind, I have no hesitation in recommending his candidature for this award for the year 2021 and wish him good luck.

Sincerely



Prof. (Dr) Ahmed Kamal

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Education and Research (NIPER), Hyderabad, India

Former Outstanding Scientist, CSIR-Indian Institute of Chemical

Technology (IICT), Hyderabad, India, Former Pro-Vice Chancellor, Jamia Hamdarad, New Delhi, India.