December 8, 2019

F32 Awards Review Committee

National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute, National Institutes of Health

Dear Selection Committee,

It is my sincere pleasure to express my support for Dr. Anish Shah in his F32 award submission for his research proposal and fellowship, and I am glad to serve as an advisor and support him in his research endeavors. Anish is an excellent candidate for this award. He has shown perseverance and genuine enthusiasm for his research during his TL1 award, which underscores his potential to have an exemplary trajectory as a translational researcher.

I fully support Anish’s training through the F32 and feel that his proposed study will help to understand the mechanism, role, and pathogenesis of autonomic dysfunction as it relates to clinical outcomes and risk-stratification. Our Emory Cardiovascular Biobank study, which I serve as the director for, has over 7,000 patients with several years of outcomes data, and has an ongoing, daily enrollment of patients undergoing cardiac catherization at Emory University Hospital, Emory University Midtown Hospital, and Grady Memorial Hospital. Anish has received approval for his IRB amendments to collect ECG data and has successfully completed a pilot study that show intriguing findings for novel ECG-based biomarkers. My research staff and coordinators will support him in enrolling patients, applying ECG patches, and collecting data. The Biobank has a secure data management system through and has the necessary personnel and protocols in place that will also allow him to collect interview-based exposures and cardiac catherization data. He has already shown that his work will add value to the study, and I expect that many other fruitful projects will come from this.

I am the principal investigator of several other studies in clinical translational research and have been working the field for over 20 years. I have worked closely with Anish’s mentoring team, including his sponsors Dr. Viola Vaccarino and Dr. Amit Shah. I am happy to serve as an advisor to Anish as he carries out his ancillary research project to focus on the relationship of the novel HRV index *Dyx*, its relationship to obstructive coronary artery disease, and the effect of psychological pathology (depression). I expect that the hands-on participation in patient recruitment and ECG collection will be a fruitful experience and provide insight into the technical and logistic details in study implementation. As an established translational researcher, I am well-suited to support him and provide examples of how to design, fund, and conduct clinical trials. His previous research and data collected from this proposal will prepare him well for future grants, including a K award as part of his career as a clinical investigator.

I look forward to incorporating Anish’s enthusiasm and energy into our study. I have no hesitations in serving as his advisor and enthusiastically recommend him for the F32 award. I am available for any questions that may arise.

Sincerely,

Arshed Quyyumi, MD, FACC, FCRP

Director of the Emory Clinical Cardiovascular Research Institute

Professor of Medicine

Division of Cardiology

Emory University

[aquyyum@emory.edu](mailto:aquyyum@emory.edu)

404-727-3655