March 15, 2019

Georgia Clinical & Translational Science Alliance: TL1 Program

Emory University

Dear Selection Committee,

It is my sincere pleasure to express my support for Dr. Anish Shah in his TL1 award submission for his research proposal and training through the Masters of Science in Clinical Research (MSCR), and I am glad to serve as an advisor and support him in his research endeavors. Anish is an excellent candidate for this award, with a genuine enthusiasm for his research that underscores his potential to have an exemplary trajectory as a translational researcher.

I fully support Anish’s training through the TL1 and MSCR, 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 6,000 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. This will allow for Anish to actively enroll new patients and add ECG data and adequately power this study. The Biobank has the necessary personnel and protocols in place that will also allow him to collect interview-based exposures and cardiac catherization data. I will help Anish incorporate his project proposal into the Emory Cardiovascular BioBank. I have no doubt that his work will uniquely add value to the study as a whole.

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 lead mentor Dr. Amit Shah and advisor Dr. Viola Vaccarino. Of not, Dr. Shah has been remarkably productive as a young faculty and has also completed the MSCR. 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 other neuropsychological pathology including depression and neurocognitive impairment. 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 a translational researcher, I am well-suited to help Anish to learn 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 in preventive cardiology.

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 TL1 award and completion of the MSCR. I am available for any questions that may arise.

Sincerely,

Arshed Quyyumi, MD, FACC, FCRP

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