



Università degli Studi di Torino
Life Sciences and Systems Biology Department

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TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

Recommendation letter for Mahdi Rasa

I am enthusiastically writing this letter to give my great recommendation for Mahdi Rasa. He started to work in my lab at the Fritz-Lipmann Institute on Aging Research (Jena, DE) in February 2017 as Ph.D. student in Molecular Biology demonstrating the ability to work independently with great creativity and enthusiasm.

During his 4-years stay in my research group, he demonstrated the ability to work independently and in a team with great creativity and enthusiasm.

During his Ph.D., Mahdi greatly managed to work both on bioinformatic analysis (DNAseq, ChIPseq, RNAseq, single-cell RNAseq, 16s-seq, Bisulfite-seq) and on in-vivo experiments (big experiment with +100 mice of a cancer mouse model). He also successfully did perform bench work (DNA/RNA isolation, cell culture, immunofluorescence, NGS library prep). Furthermore, Mahdi participated constantly to all the research projects conducted by our group. Mahdi revealed himself as a hardworking person who cares a lot about his work with great skills. In addition, his work was always in a good order and he prepared all his data along with his analysis and a general report monthly that helped us to step forward rapidly.

He has experience working with mouse model and he attended FELASA B course. He planned and carried out the experiments and data analysis independently and also supervised other PhD students in carrying out experiments. Mahdi got along well with everyone and had the ability to involve other team members.

He has shown his commitment and his skills, proving to be able to bring an effective contribution to the research activity. I really appreciate his professional skills, dedication to work and enthusiasm. His good character and willingness to help others are also particularly appreciated, as his ability to interact and collaborate with laboratory colleagues.

He was actively involved in Scientific writing like grant applications, manuscripts and in scientific presentations. He worked hard and his support was instrumental to build up the laboratory (especially the bioinformatic pipelines and data storage) during our first year of establishing a functional laboratory. His work supported different projects that are currently under preparation with Mahdi being either first- or co-contributor. Mahdi has a high degree of motivation to succeed and a tenacious approach even when hard times come. He has great work ethics and enthusiasm for science.

Apart from being an excellent scientist, Mahdi is an outgoing and helpful person. I convey my strongest recommendation for his application and rate him in the top 5% of all the PhD students I have ever known.

If you need further information feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Francesco Neri