421 US 31W By-Pass Bowling Green, KY 42101
270-782-0151 270-782-7528 (fax)
www.wkhlresearch.com

August 4, 2020

WKU Department of Biology
Tenure and Promotion Committee
Western Kentucky University
1906 College Height Blvd.
Bowling Green, KY 42101

RE: Dr. Natalie Mountjoy's research contribution to Western Kentucky Heart and Lung Research Foundation and Educational Trust associated with Med Center Health

Dear Tenure and Promotion Committee:

It is my pleasure to write a letter supporting Dr. Mountjoy's application for Continuance and Tenure Review at Western Kentucky University. I am the Chairman of Western Kentucky Heart and Lung Research Foundation & Educational Trust (WKHL RFET) and have been in this position since 2016. The WKHL RET is a nonprofit organization developed in 2015 in collaboration with Med Center Health of Bowling Green. WKHL RET provides a platform for research and scholarly activities for the University of Kentucky College of Medicine-Bowling Green Campus medical residents, students, and fellows. WKHL RFET has been actively involved with publications, yearly presentations at the national and state level and educating the health care workers in south central Kentucky through various forms of media.

I was introduced to Dr. Mountjoy as an expert in survey research in the early half of April 2020. I have worked closely with her to design 3 major research projects out of which two have reached completion. We are in the process of writing manuscripts for publishing these projects. Also, we will be presenting them at the state level this year through the Kentucky Chapter of American College of Cardiology (KY-ACC) and nationally at the 2020 American Heart Association (AHA) meeting.

These two projects evaluated the tele-health experience during the COVID-19 pandemic. The first study looked at the patient's tele-health experience and the second looked at the physician's tele-health experience. Dr. Mountjoy's expertise was fundamental not only in designing and administering the survey, but also in following up and doing statistical analysis for the surveys. She played a major role in writing the methods and results for our manuscripts. Both surveys are high quality with the first one involving close to 200 responses from the patients. The second survey received close to 70 responses from the providers.

Mohammed Kazimuddin, PRESIDENT/CEO/FOUNDER | *Aniruddha Singh,* CHAIRMAN | *Melinda Joyce,* CO-CHAIRMAN
Jacqueline Dawson Dowe, VICE PRESIDENT | *Mohammad Abdul Waheed,* BOARD MEMBER
Muhammad Shoaib Akbar, BOARD MEMBER | *Avnish Tripathi,* BOARD MEMBER | *Muhammad Ahmed,* BOARD MEMBER
Nisarfathima Kazimuddin, CO-FOUNDER | *Karan Singh,* BOARD MEMBER | *David Smith,* BOARD MEMBER
Abrar Arshad, BOARD MEMBER

WESTERN KENTUCKY HEART & LUNG
Research Foundation & Educational Trust

Med Center Health

421 US 31W By-Pass Bowling Green, KY 42101
270-782-0151 270-782-7528 (fax)
www.wkhlresearch.com

The surveys are invaluable in improving the delivery of healthcare system through Med Center Health and its associates. The results have assisted greatly in understanding the medical needs of our population during the middle of the COVID-19 pandemic. Based on the data gathered, we have applied for a tele-health grant through the US Department of Agriculture (USDA) and are hopeful to receive funding to improve the shortcomings in our tele-health experience with future research. The studies have also been educational to the medical students, residents and other house staff who participated in the study.

Dr. Mountjoy is currently working on designing a questionnaire for our third survey-based project assessing the psychosocial impact of COVID-19 among the COVID-19 survivor's and their family members. Knowing that COVID-19 is associated with significant anxiety and stress, this project should help us better understand the psychological impact of COVID-19. In turn, it would enable us to provide improved overall medical care for our patients.

On behalf of Western Kentucky Heart and Lung Research Foundation and Educational Trust and Med Center Health, we are very fortunate to have Dr. Mountjoy's collaboration for the various COVID-19 studies. I know she has devoted several hours of hard work every week working with us toward this noble cause. We look forward to continuing our work on the COVID-19 research projects with Dr. Mountjoy.

If you have any questions or need further information, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Aniruddha Singh, MD, FACC
Director of Preventive Cardiology & Vascular Medicine, WKHLG
Director of Research for the Cardiovascular Fellowship Program
Chairman, WKHL Research Foundation & Educational Trust
Assistant Professor, University of Kentucky College of Medicine

Mohammed Kazimuddin, PRESIDENT/CEO/FOUNDER | *Aniruddha Singh,* CHAIRMAN | *Melinda Joyce,* CO-CHAIRMAN
Jacqueline Dawson Dowe, VICE PRESIDENT | *Mohammad Abdul Waheed,* BOARD MEMBER
Muhammad Shoaib Akbar, BOARD MEMBER | *Avnish Tripathi,* BOARD MEMBER | *Muhammad Ahmed,* BOARD MEMBER
Nisarfathima Kazimuddin, CO-FOUNDER | *Karan Singh,* BOARD MEMBER | *David Smith,* BOARD MEMBER
Abrar Arshad, BOARD MEMBER

421 US 31W By-Pass Bowling Green, KY 42101
270-782-0151 270-782-7528 (fax)
www.wkhlresearch.com

Mohammed Kazimuddin, PRESIDENT/CEO/FOUNDER | *Aniruddha Singh,* CHAIRMAN | *Melinda Joyce,* CO-CHAIRMAN
Jacqueline Dawson Dowe, VICE PRESIDENT | *Mohammad Abdul Waheed,* BOARD MEMBER
Muhammad Shoaib Akbar, BOARD MEMBER | *Avnish Tripathi,* BOARD MEMBER | *Muhammad Ahmed,* BOARD MEMBER
Nisarfathima Kazimuddin, CO-FOUNDER | *Karan Singh,* BOARD MEMBER | *David Smith,* BOARD MEMBER
Abrar Arshad, BOARD MEMBER