

Mr James Hunter, BSc MBChB MD FRCS
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The Organising Committee
The Transplantation Society
Scientific Abstract Travel Awards

5th May 2023

Re: Letter of support for a Scientific Abstract Travel Award for Dr Mohamed Elzawahry

Dear Members of the Committee,

I am delighted to be writing in full support of Dr Mohamed Elzawahry's application for a Scientific Abstract Travel Award for the upcoming IPITA Congress in San Diego, October 2023.

Mohamed is a surgical trainee with a specialist interest in Transplantation surgery who is currently studying towards his Ph.D. within the Transplant Biology Group embedded in the Nuffield Department of Surgical Sciences, University of Oxford. He is in the 1st year of his Ph.D. and is investigating methods of donor pancreas preservation with the goal of reducing the number of pancreases rejected for transplant and therefore improving utilisation.

He has undertaken an important pre-clinical study assessing the impact of different durations of hypothermic oxygenated machine perfusion (HMPO₂) on pig pancreases to help guide future clinical implementation. Mohamed has refined the use of abattoir pancreas organs from pigs and developed a reproducible model that uses normothermic reperfusion as a surrogate for transplant to give clinically meaningful data on insulin secretion and function. This work will help to determine the duration donor pancreases should undergo HMPO₂ prior to transplant and it would be an invaluable experience for him to present his work at the IPITA congress.

I am Mohamed's Ph.D. supervisor along with Professor Peter Friend and it is a pleasure to guide him in his studies. He is an extremely hard working and diligent student who has a natural curiosity and inquisitive mind. He has attended regional and national conferences previously and is at the ideal stage of his research career to experience presenting his work at IPITA, which as a large International congress will offer an academic environment with a breadth of topics and expertise in which Mohamed will thrive.

I have no hesitation in recommending Mohamed for the Scientific Abstract Travel Award. I strongly support his application and feel that this would be an ideal opportunity for him to further his experience and research career.

With best wishes,



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10th May 2023

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To Whom it May Concern:

Re: Mr Mohamed Aly Mohamed Elshafei ELZAWAHRY

I can confirm that Mr Elzawahry (GMC number 7534092) is the current holder of a UK national training number in General Surgery, with a projected completion date for his training of 13 August 2027.

Kind Regards
Yours Sincerely

Mr Nicholas F Watson BMedSci BMBS FRCS
Consultant Colorectal and General Surgeon
Higher Surgical Training Programme Director, Health Education East Midlands
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