

May 2, 2023

The Transplantation Society (TTS)

Re: TTS Scientific Abstract Travel Awards

Dear Review Committee:

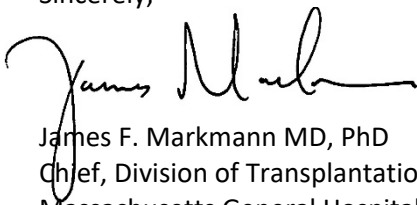
It gives me great pleasure to write this letter in support of Anil Kharga's application for the TTS Scientific Abstract Travel Awards. **He is from Nepal and has graduated from medical school in India.** Since joining the perfusion lab at the Center for Engineering in Medicine and Surgery (CEMS) and the Center for Transplantation Sciences (CTS), Massachusetts General Hospital (MGH), in Feb 2022, Anil has demonstrated great promise to become a clinician scientist. His work is dedicated to the ex-vivo perfusion of livers, investigating different interventions to recover damaged organs to combat the fatal liver graft shortage.

During Anil's first year of a research fellowship, he has been trained in different perfusion systems ranging from the manual system for a small animal model to a semi-automatic Liver Assist device for a large animal model and discarded human livers for research. Anil is currently working on a protocol to oxygenate graft preservation solutions using Hemoglobin Based Oxygen Carrier (HBOC), enabling long-term oxygen supplies to organs via common preservation solutions and reducing the need for complex perfusion devices. This will allow for more streamlined procurement, back-benching, and implantation during recipient transplant surgery, decreasing cold and warm ischemic time, resulting in minimized ischemia-reperfusion injury.

Abstract title: "Utilization of oxygenated Hemopure based University of Wisconsin solution during simulated procurement, back-benching, and graft implantation to minimize ischemic reperfusion injury in a rat liver transplantation simulated on pump" has been submitted to TTS 2023 for poster/ oral presentation. This travel award will help him cover the registration and travel expenses and allow him to network with surgeons as he aspires to pursue General Surgery residency training in the US.

Thank you for considering his application for the TTS Scientific Abstract Travel Awards.

Sincerely,



James F. Markmann MD, PhD
Chief, Division of Transplantation
Massachusetts General Hospital
Claude E. Welch Professor of Surgery
Harvard Medical School