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April 17, 2024

RE: Sho Takemoto, MD
TTS Young Investigator Award

Dear TTS Awards Committee Reviewer,

This letter serves to confirm my enthusiastic support for Dr. Sho Takemoto's application for a Young Investigator Award from the Transplantation Society. I am Sho's principal research mentor supervising him during his planned two-year laboratory research experience that started in January 2024.

As you will appreciate from his abstract, Sho is an excellent candidate for this Award. He has considerable prior experience in clinical research, and is fully-trained as a clinical cardiac surgeon. I was introduced to Sho by a current surgical research fellow in our lab who knows that Sho would like to position himself to make academic contributions of the course of his cardiac surgical career. Based on very strong recommendations from his current chairman and his other Japanese cardiac surgery mentors as well as an excellent interview performance, we offered Sho a research fellowship in my translational transplant research lab, working on heart and lung allo- and xenograft research projects. I am delighted that he has chosen to join us. Since arriving in the lab, he has already begun to make significant contributions to our work, some of which are reflected in his submitted abstract.

In summary, I hope Sho's abstract will achieve a sufficiently good score that he can qualify for a Young Investigator Award from TTS. He is clearly qualified, as a current trainee in our lab. Please do not hesitate to let me know if I can do anything further to support his candidacy.

Sincerely yours,

Richard N. Pierson III, MD
Professor of Surgery, Harvard Medical School