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TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

I am writing regarding the involvement of **Dr. Ahmad Saedisomeolia** (Associate Professor of Nutrition, Department of Cellular and Molecular Nutrition, School of Nutritional Sciences and Dietetics, Tehran University of Medical Sciences, Tehran, Iran) with my research team in the Department of Pharmacology, School of Medicine, Western Sydney University from the 1 July 2015 to the 30 June 2016.

The nature of Ahmad's research interest here is "Antioxidants and Inflammation". He successfully shared his interest with us on nutrients, antioxidants, inflammation (systemic and neuro-inflammation) in our animal model and cell culture setting. I am delighted to inform you that it has been a pleasure to have Dr. Saedisomeolia here as part of my team, and I outline below the main activities during this very successful year.

- Dr. Saedisomeolia passed the safety induction procedure (which is very essential to his access to our lab facilities). He then started visiting all the lab works here, including the cell culture and animal facility we have for the cellular neuro-inflammation assays and the behavioural models for Alzheimer's disease. He also worked on our neuro-inflammation behavioural methodology project.
- 2. He collaborated with the academic staff and postgraduate students with the inflammation/oxidative stress/neuro-inflammation experiments, data analysis and manuscript preparation.
- 3. He attended our routine laboratory and research meetings as well as the School of Medicine weekly colloquiums. He has given six presentations at Western Sydney University and at various Schools at the University of Sydney regarding his research interests, as well as presentations on the drafting of manuscripts.
- 4. He has been offered and has accepted affiliation at University of Sydney, working with the Charles Perkins Centre and the Boden Institute of Obesity, Nutrition, Exercise & Eating Disorders. The outcome of his involvement with these Centres was the drafting and submission of a systematic review manuscript shared with Professor Margaret Allman-Farinelli (from CPC) on "Antioxidants and Obesity" and another systematic review shared with A/Professor Michael Skilton (from Boden Institute) on "Effects of micronutrients on IMT".
- 5. At the University of Western Sydney, with help from academics at the Tehran University of Medical Sciences (TUMS), he prepared and submitted a narrative review article on "Vitamin A and Alzheimer's Disease" shared with me. He also drafted a narrative review article on the "Status of Omentin, Chemerin and n-3 PUFAs in Diabetes" shared with Dr. Alejandra Rangel from my research team.

- 6. He acted as an advisor for the School of Medicine WSU, working with one of our PhD students with the research project "Nutrients and Prostate Cancer (a cell culture based trial on DU145, LNCaP and PC3 cells)". They are both currently working on two research manuscripts. The first manuscript "Food Factors and Prostate Cancer Cells Viability, Emphasis on Antagonism and Synergy of Effects" is shared with Professor Paul De Souza, A/Professor Kieran Scott and Mrs. Carol Gano. The second manuscript is titled "Nutrient Intake of Prostate Cancer Patients and its Relationship with Disease Progression".
- 7. He also acted as an advisor for School of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering, University of Sydney working with Professor Fariba Dehghani on "Vitamin D-Mushrooms" and "FruHis/Prostate Cancer" Hypotheses. They now have a strong collaboration in order to have shared research projects as well as grants. Fariba is one of the leading researchers working on "Manipulation of Food Ingredients" at the University of Sydney.
- 8. He actively attended the Problem Based Learning (PBL) tutorial classes in School of Medicine at Western Sydney University. The sessions mainly involved nutritional complications such as Anorexia Nervosa, Bulimia Nervosa, and Malnutrition.
- 9. I am aware that he drafted/submitted 4 manuscripts shared by TUMS, WSU and the University of Sydney. This is a very unique way to initiate collaboration between TUMS and these leading Australian institutions.
- 10. Dr Aedisomeolia is always actively talking to academics (at official or casual meetings) seeking collaborations for future research. He understands the importance of international collaborations having served as Vice-Dean of International Affairs for many years.

Prof. Gerald Muench

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