



Seeking A Cure For
Retinitis Pigmentosa, Macular Degeneration,
Usher Syndrome and Allied Retinal Dystrophies

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Re: Letter of Support for CIRM DISC2-10973 Application “Small Molecule Proteostasis Regulators to Treat Photoreceptor Diseases” (PI: Jonathan Lin)

Dear Members of the California Institute for Regenerative Medicine (CIRM) Governing Board and Independent Citizens’ Oversight Committee:

I am writing to support Dr. Jonathan Lin’s CIRM DISC2-10973 Application “Small Molecule Proteostasis Regulators to Treat Photoreceptor Disease.”

Retina International is a global umbrella group of 43 patient led charities and foundations on all continents who are funding and supporting research into retinal dystrophies. Almost all of these conditions affect both adults and children, they are debilitating and disabling and can lead to severe and degenerative vision loss. We strongly urge CIRM to support research into these disorders because almost all of these retinal diseases have no cure. As a result, children grow up not out of these conditions which impact all aspects of daily life, from education to employment and significantly influence the quality of life of the person affected as well as their families, friends and colleagues.

Dr. Lin’s CIRM proposal offers what we believe is a practical approach to the testing of new treatments to prevent vision loss using stem cell models derived from our patients with retinal disease. We are wholeheartedly support this project that provides hope to patients living with retinal dystrophies all over the world.

Yours Sincerely,

Avril Daly
Chief Executive Officer
Retina International