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Xuejun H Parsons, PhD.

CEO/President

San Diego Regenerative Medicine Institute

Website: <https://sdrmi.org>; <https://plurixcel.com>

Email: parsons@sdrmi.org, parsons@plurixcel.com, jparsons001@san.rr.com

Cell Phone: 858-243-2046

cmandac@cirm.ca.gov

Written Public Comment to REGULAR MEETING OF THE INDEPENDENT CITIZENS OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE AND THE APPLICATION REVIEW SUBCOMMITTEE CALIFORNIA INSTITUTE FOR REGENERATIVE MEDICINE Organized Pursuant To The CALIFORNIA STEM CELL RESEARCH, TREATMENTS, AND CURES INITIATIVE OF 2020 on Jan. 25, 2024.

Dear ICOC and THE APPLICATION REVIEW SUBCOMMITTEE CIRM,

Thanks for the meeting notice and thank you for this opportunity to present my Public Comment. I'd like to make a public comment regarding the shocking revelation of double-standards and corruption by those terrible CIRM awards, from Discovery to Clinical programs, presented by CIRM President/Staff to ICOC, which reveals to the public a totally dysfunctional, biased, conflict-of-interest (COI), even flawed CIRM pre-application selection by 3 panelists and review processes run by CIRM leadership that completely lacks the expertise of stem cell research and regenerative medicine essential to the California stem cell research and cures act, including CIRM Vice President of Portfolio Development and Review Gil Sambrano, CIRM Vice President of Therapeutic Development Abba Creasey, CIRM Vice President of Scientific Programs Rosa Canet-Avilés, and other associated Directors, who do not even have the scientific knowledge and scientific integrity to select the highest quality stem cell-based projects for CIRM funding based on scientific merits and consistent CIRM eligibility criteria. For example, CIRM Vice President of Portfolio Development and Review Gil Sambrano has zero experience and background in stem cell research and regenerative medicine, but actually taunts in CIRM website that he "leads the team responsible for selecting the highest quality stem cell-based projects for CIRM funding from Discovery to Clinical programs", if he could count those iPSC Ponzi scheme CIRM awards he personally selected for his close tie UCSF as "the highest quality stem cell-based projects" against the conflict-of-interest (COI) policy of the CA State and CIRM, if he could count > \$300 million of misappropriation of CA taxpayer money to the iPSC Ponzi scheme projects he selected as "the highest quality stem cell-based projects", if he could count those scientifically-flawed projects (e.g., the CIRM CLIN directly linked to CIRM vice chair Maria Bonneville) he selected as "the highest quality stem cell-based projects", if he could count those totally lack-novelty CIRM awards (e.g., the Oct-4 project) he selected as "the highest quality stem cell-based projects". Such unaccountable, biased, and flawed CIRM pre-application selection by CIRM Staff or panelists who have absolutely no background and expertise in stem cell research and regenerative medicine relevant to CIRM's mission has resulted in widespread mismanagement of CIRM grant applications/awards/portfolio and massive misappropriation of California taxpayer dollars that eventually led to CIRM former President's resignation.

Those terrible CIRM awards, from Discovery to Clinical programs, presented by CIRM President/Staff to ICOC only shows the public that CIRM, a supposedly CA State agency established and sustained by California Propositions with taxpayer money to fund human embryonic stem cell (hESC) research in order to find treatment or cure for many unmet medical needs, actually do not comply with the

California stem cell research and cures act that promises treatment or cure for very costly and devastating diseases affecting millions and costing trillions, and CIRM Presidents/Staff/Panelists even would not bring those innovative hESC research projects that overcome the major bottleneck in neuron regeneration and have tremendous health and economy impact on CA and CA diverse populations for full review after multiple resubmissions (please see CIRM communications below). However, do we just witness CIRM President/Staff present a CIRM CLIN award for one patient (n 1) directly linked to ICOC board member Larry Goldstein to ICOC meeting for award? Do we just witness CIRM President/Staff present a scientifically-flawed CIRM CLIN award directly linked to CIRM vice chair Maria Bonneville to ICOC meeting for award? Do we just witness CIRM President/Staff present more immuno-therapy and small molecule therapy CIRM CLIN awards without any scientific merits to ICOC meeting for award after wide-spread clinical trials failure in the Bio-Tech world? CIRM Presidents/Staff/Panelists would not even select my innovative hESC research projects that provide currently only available source of scalable human neurons for spinal cord repair for full review after multiple resubmissions. However, do we just witness CIRM President/Staff present the hESC oligodendrocyte therapy for spinal cord injury after the highly publicized Geron failure story of their oligodendrocyte therapy over 10 years ago? I am sure you all know that oligodendrocytes alone cannot repair the damaged or lost motor neurons in the spinal cord.

In CIRM eligibility criteria, there is a statement about health and economy impact on CA and CA diverse populations. The CIRM CLIN award for one patient (n 1) in your presentation has absolutely no health and economy impact on CA and CA diverse population, how did they get pass CIRM eligibility check, how did they address the DEI issue of the disease that CIRM requires? Or do we just witness the double standards of CIRM eligibility criteria in CIRM President/Staff selection for full review and CIRM award process again? CIRM eligibility criteria clearly say, to be eligible for CIRM Application and Awards: “human stem or progenitor cells either comprise the product/tool or are used to manufacture the product/tool”, and technically and scientifically, the reprogrammed/cancer cells – induced pluripotent stem cells (iPSC) -- are not even stem cells, not even meet the eligibility criteria of CIRM applications. However, CIRM President/Staff and CIRM Vice President of Portfolio Development and Review Gil Sambrano still would only lead selecting and continue only select iPSC fraud and waste applications, but not the true pluripotent stem cell – human embryonic stem cell (hESC) -- applications that completely meet CIRM eligibility criteria and pursue California stem cell research and cures act, to full review and for CIRM awards, which has resulted in the massive misappropriation of CA taxpayer money to the iPSC Ponzi scheme in the staggering amount of over \$300 million during the term of CIRM former Chair and now interim President Jon Thomas.

For example, I am the person who has already developed defined media for pluripotent hESC and techniques for derivation and maintenance of clinical-grade pluripotent stem cell lines with publications and patents. Alysson Muotri, the UCSD Stem Cell Center Director and Fred Gage’s student, shamelessly stole the idea from me, a woman and a minority woman, to waste on iPSC fraud and scam, and has already wasted millions of NIH SBIR grants to develop this iPSC defined medium of CIRM TRAN-15298 that I and others have already developed, but he still could not develop and needs to waste more taxpayer dollars on it. Since Irving Weissman, Fred Gage, Geroge Daley, Alysson Muotri, CIRM Presidents, ISSCR Presidents and Vice Presidents, including ISSCR’s current President Amanda Clark of UCLA, and all the other iPSC professors, all insist on that “induced pluripotent stem cells (iPSC) is the alternative of pluripotent human embryonic stem cells (hESC)”, and “hESC and iPSC are identical”. So, this low-cost, clinical-grade iPSC maintenance medium of CIRM TRAN-15298 of Alysson Muotri has already existed, actually even sold by Life-Tech/Thermo-Fisher. Instead of pursuing CA stem cell research and cure act of CIRM to derive clinical-grade hESC lines for patients, CIRM Presidents/Staff and

General Counsel and Vice President of Portfolio Development and Review Gil Sambrano are so unbelievably ignorant, still give their close ties or COI preferential treatment for selection for full review of a Defined media to waste on something already existing, on technology already developed. Alysson Muotri's iPSC projects are not only scientifically-flawed and directly linked to CIRM former President and ICOC board member Larry Goldstein, but also plagiarizing existing idea and technology, even commercialized technology, such as the defined media sold by Thermo-Fisher/Life-Tech.

CIRM eligibility criteria clearly say, to be eligible for CIRM Application and Awards, the organization or company needs to be in California. It is outrageous that CIRM President/Staff and Vice President of Portfolio Development and Review Gil Sambrano do not select California organizations and companies that already have innovative defined technology to derive and maintain clinical-grade pluripotent stem cell lines for research and therapies in order to find treatments and cures as compelled by California voters for full review and award, instead gives California taxpayer dollars to a Japanese Company directly linked to CIRM President and CIRM Vice President of Portfolio Development and Review Gil Sambrano to waste on making cancer cells/reprogrammed cells – iPSC -- that are falsely called stem cells, and those big Company/Pharms outside California that do not even meet CIRM application eligibility, like the \$15 million to the eye Secretome of Combango, a subsidiary of Kala Bio, Bob Langer of MIT's Company.

Lack of a scalable human cardiac stem cell source with adequate heart muscle regeneration potential remains a major setback for heart replacement, and fabricating a human heart is still beyond reach. It is shocking that our Defined hESC Platform Enabling Large Scale Manufacturing of Clinical-Grade Cardiomyocytes for Heart Regenerative Therapy and Biofabrication (TRAN4-16090) is not even eligible for applying for CIRM TRANS even though it is translational by nature, urgently needed stem cell technology to address major bottleneck in regenerative medicine, completely meet CIRM TRAN4 eligibility criteria (Please see CIRM communication below). We proposed to continue evaluate and refine the criteria that our PluriXcel SMI-Heart Platform must meet to adequately address the unmet medical need of cardiovascular disease, exactly match the allowable activities for a TRAN4 award. However, the senior science office in CIRM review Linda Nevin baselessly misinterpreted my proposal as we intend to validate the preliminary findings that is stated in nowhere of my proposal. The proposed tool the hESC defined Platform – PluriXcel-SMI-Heart Platform, has been patented, and consistent, robust, repudiable, and effective data has been published, all shown and listed in the eligibility form and the proposal. There are no preliminary findings with regard to our tool need to be validated. It just shows how ignorant the senior science office in CIRM review Linda Nevin is, how little scientific knowledge she has, how unqualifying she is as even a grants officer of CIRM to baselessly misinterpret scientific proposals in CIRM official grants communication against scientific merits and openly compromise the scientific integrity of CIRM. The senior science office in CIRM review Linda Nevin and Vice President of Portfolio Development and Review Gil Sambrano have not only intentionally made CIRM instructions and guidelines very confusing against scientific integrity and fundamental science, but also deliberately misinterpreted CIRM own instructions and guidelines in order to block the most translational research – human embryonic stem cell research -- from translating to clinics to meet the urgent needs of diverse Californians for treatments and cures, to aid the misappropriation of CA taxpayer dollars to their own close ties, including all those iPSC tool awards that really intended to validate preliminary findings with regard to their tools because none of those CIRM awarded iPSC tools are even patented, nor their tools consistently, robustly, and effectively meets performance characteristics required to address the bottleneck. For example, no CIRM iPSC awards have provided any robust and reproducible data to show iPSC could even differentiate into a large supply of functional cells (e.g., neurons, cardiomyocytes), how

did those iPSC awards directly linked to senior science office in CIRM review Linda Nevin and Vice President of Portfolio Development and Review Gil Sambrano pass CIRM eligibility check?

The senior science office in CIRM review Linda Nevin, just like CIRM Vice President of Portfolio Development and Review Gil Sambrano, has absolutely no experience and expertise of stem cell research and regenerative medicine. They both have absolutely no knowledge, skill, and qualification for the jobs of Senior Science Officer for Grant Review at CIRM and Vice President of Portfolio Development and Review. They landed their jobs in CIRM because of their close ties, not because of their experience, expertise, and qualification, as demonstrated by how much grants money they have personally selected and facilitated to flow into their own close ties, many of which are frauds and wastes, at the cost of CA taxpayers and against the conflict-of-interest law of CA state about its employees.

As the senior science office in CIRM review, Linda Nevin could not even give consistent, robust, clear, easy to understand interpretation of CIRM eligibility criteria, deliberately interpret or misinterpret CIRM eligibility criteria in order to block the most translation research – human embryonic stem cell research – from translating to clinics to meet the urgent needs of diverse Californians for treatments and cures as CIRM is compelled by California voters to pursue, instead to give stem cell scams and Ponzi schemes (e.g., iPSC) of her own close ties preferential treatment for taxpayer money and CIRM awards, including all the CIRM previous iPSC awards that are directly linked to Linda Nevin and Gil Sambrano --- iPSC are in fact cancer cells or reprogrammed cells, which do not even meet CIRM eligibility criteria for stem cells; the \$15M to the eye Secretome of Combangio, a subsidiary of Kala Bio, Bob Langer of MIT's Company and Healios of Japan that are directly linked to Linda Nevin and Gil Sambrano --- not only not meet CIRM eligibility for stem cells and CA organization, but also not meet CIRM eligibility criteria to address bottleneck of unmet medical need; and the iPSC TRAN Tool of Defined Biosciences of UCSD stem cell center director Alysson Muotri that is also directly linked to Linda Nevin and Gil Sambrano --- not only not meet CIRM eligibility for stem cells and address bottleneck of unmet medical need, but also against scientific integrity to steal existing technology and idea. How did those CIRM awards of the close ties of CIRM Portfolio Development and Review that really did not meet CIRM eligibility criteria pass the eligibility check for CIRM ICOC to misappropriate hundreds of millions of CA taxpayer dollars?

Those scientifically-flawed, Ponzi scheme, or lack-novelty CIRM awards selected and presented by CIRM President/Staff to ICOC do not even meet CIRM own eligibility criteria. It is such a huge embarrassment for such terrible awards even showing up in CIRM ICOC meetings. It just shows the public a dysfunctional, biased, conflict-of-interest, and unaccountable CIRM grant selection and review not complying with the California stem cell research and cures act and any laws, which has resulted in widespread mismanagement of CIRM grant applications/awards/portfolio and massive misappropriation of California taxpayer dollars that eventually led to CIRM former President resignation. Larry Goldstein and Maria Bonneville should also resign for such revelation of their corruption and conflict of interest. There are many qualified people out there. We know CIRM former President only hired their close ties who have not only minimal background or little experience in stem cell research, but also have absolutely no knowledge, skill, and qualification for the jobs of CIRM grants review or portfolio development. Those scientifically-flawed, Ponzi scheme, or lack-novelty CIRM awards selected and presented by CIRM Presidents/Staff and CIRM Vice President of Portfolio Development and Review Gil Sambrano to ICOC also demonstrate how ignorant they are. If CIRM President/Staff, CIRM panelists, CIRM senior science office in CIRM review Linda Nevin, CIRM Senior Science Officer Liz Noblin, CIRM Vice President of Portfolio Development and Review Gil Sambrano could not do their job, they should resign or be fired, they should feel ashamed for getting paid so much by CA taxpayers, but could not even comply with the COI law of the CA State, could not even do their simple job that is to select the highest

quality stem cell-based projects for CIRM funding based on scientific merits and consistent CIRM eligibility criteria, to fund the best stem cell research that has impact on millions of lives and CA economy, but not to corrupt CIRM by only selecting or leading selection of their own close ties.