

GREATPOINT

make no little plans

GreatPoint Ventures
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Independent Citizens' Oversight Committee (ICOC)
California Institute for Regenerative Medicine
1999 Harrison Street, Suite 1650
Oakland, CA 94612

Letter of support for CIRM TRAN1-11259 (Karin Gaensler P.I.)

Dear Members of the California Institute for Regenerative Medicine Governing Board and Independent Citizens' Oversight Committee,

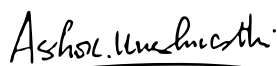
I am writing this letter to provide my strong support of Dr. Karin Gaensler's translational grant application that proposes an exciting new vaccine approach for treating acute myelogenous leukemia. My interest in leukemia stems from the experiences that I and my family had when my father developed leukemia and was treated at the University of California. The treatment was intensive and difficult. Though the team at UCSF was skilled, highly committed and professional, it was clear that even with high-dose chemotherapy, bone marrow transplantation and their attendant toxicities, outcomes were often poor. Since then I have made a commitment to supporting leukemia research at UCSF and established an endowed professorship there to honor my father.

As an investor in novel technologies, many in the biomedical sphere, my group at GreatPoint Ventures has developed a portfolio that includes a number of companies in the pharmaceutical and biotech spaces. Some companies include Skyhawk Therapeutics, Onco Response, Glympse Bio. My academic background is in computer science, but I have been involved in the intersection of computer science and biology for quite a few years and have started two biotech companies, one called CAPP Medical (doing liquid biopsy), which was acquired by Roche, and the other called CiberMed (doing biomarker discover). We at GreatPoint are focused on early stage companies that include health and wellness. Thus, I believe have extensive experience in bringing new technologies through the development process and to market.

Dr. Gaensler and I have discussed her research on several occasions and I am impressed with her commitment to bringing this technology to the clinic to improve outcomes for her patients. We have initiated discussions as to strategies for developing the vaccine. From a product development perspective, the potential to apply this technology to other more common hematological malignancies is exciting. This could represent a new opportunity for patients in California and elsewhere.

CIRM funding now for these crucial pre-IND studies is essential for bringing this technology to the clinic in the future.

Sincerely,



Ashok Krishnamurthi
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