

UC San Diego

HEALTH SCIENCES

Dan S. Kaufman, MD, PhD
Professor
9500 Gilman Drive, MC 0695
La Jolla, CA. 92093-0694

May 23, 2023

Re: INFR5-14562, "UCSD Advanced Cell Therapy Laboratory" Support

Dear Dr. Kaufman,

I am very pleased to enthusiastically provide this letter of support for the UC San Diego Advanced Cell Therapy Laboratory (ACTL) as part of your CIRM INFR5 proposal to be part of the California Cell and Gene Therapy Manufacturing Network. As you know, I only recently joined UC San Diego as Vice Chancellor for Health Sciences in January of this year; therefore, I was not able to provide this letter of support at the time your proposal was submitted. However, in the interim I have been very pleased to meet with you and learn more about the vital role the ACTL plays for patient care at UC San Diego Health. I am very impressed that you have been able to provide clinical cell production for patients treated in multiple clinical trials. Your facility and team also play a key role in support of preclinical, pre-IND stage programs of both internal and external research groups. I am sure that the UC San Diego ACTL's inclusion in CIRM's California Cell and Gene Therapy Manufacturing Network will further bolster the impact of ACTL. I am also sure that you and your team will be valuable contributors and collaborators to other network members.

ACTL also plays a key role as part of the new Sanford Stem Cell Institute (SSCI). This Institute will now support a broad range of research and clinical services, as well as further improve clinical translation of novel cell and gene therapies. I understand that the SSCI has formally secured additional space for the process development work plans of ACTL, as outlined in your proposal. This will no doubt be helpful to better serve more ACTL clients, as the needs for your services are certainly growing. I also look forward to working with you and your team, as well as the SSCI, as we plan for additional GMP manufacturing space that will allow us to better meet the needs of internal UC San Diego projects, as well as clients and collaborators within the local biotech community. Additionally, your interactions with local CDMOs provides potential additional support for manufacturing needs. Again, these local manufacturing connections will certainly help bring important cell and gene therapies to UC San Diego Health patients.

I know we will be following up again soon about the ACTL plans moving forward. I look forward to hearing more about your interactions with CIRM's California Cell and Gene Therapy Manufacturing Network. If there is any other support I can provide in the interim, please let me know.



John M. Carethers, MD, MACP
Vice Chancellor for Health Sciences