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Division of Gastroenterology and
Hepatology

May 7th, 2020

PSC Partners Seeking a Cure
Scientific and Medical Advisory Committee
6900 E Belleview Ave Ste 202
Greenwood Village CO 80111-1627

RE: 2019-2020 Progress Report for PSC Partners Research Grant

To Whom It May Concern:

I am pleased to provide a progress report for the funding of the project titled "Genome Wide Association Study (GWAS) in Biliary Tract Cancer (BTC)". The project intends to identify and replicate genetic variants in patients that develop de novo cholangiocarcinoma (CCA) and gallbladder cancer (GBC) relative to PSC associated BTC, mainly CCA. It is known that PSC patients are 170 times more likely to develop CCA compared to the general population. It is estimated that 15% of patients with PSC will go onto develop CCA, a highly lethal bile duct cancer.

Genotyping of 3,002 BTC cases including 197 PSC-associated CCA and analysis with a 3:1 case control ratio was completed in early 2020. Overall, the preliminary data suggests that genetic variations correlate with the development of BTC. Analysis with the statistical genetics and genetic epidemiology groups of Drs. Katherine McGlynn at NCI and Chris Amos at Baylor College of Medicine is in process. A manuscript reporting these findings is underway in which PSC Partners support will be recognized.

Within the first year of funding we have established collaborations with 27 national and international institutions that estimate a current biorepository of 1,600 samples for the replication phase. The number of PSC-CCA cases within this sample set is unknown at this time. We are on track to accumulate 5,000 cases (including de novo and PSC-CCA) by the beginning of 2024. 64 patients living with PSC-CCA have been identified at Mayo Clinic and will continue to be contacted requesting enrollment to enhance the population of PSC-CCA patients in the replication samples. In April of 2020 a NIH R01 grant was been submitted proposing additional funding of the BTC GWAS replication phase.

Thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "L. Roberts".

Lewis R. Roberts, MB ChB, PhD
Professor of Medicine and Consultant
Director, Hepatobiliary Neoplasia Clinic