

22<sup>nd</sup> May 2023

Dear Members of the European Society for Mitochondrial Research and Medicine,

**Re: Letter of support for Dr. Ana Andreazza's Call for Nomination to the E-mit Executive Board**

It is with utmost enthusiasm and conviction that I present this nomination letter in strong support of Dr. Ana Andreazza's candidacy for **ordinary (general) board membership** in our esteemed society. We wholeheartedly believe that her outstanding qualifications, combined with her remarkable multidisciplinary expertise, will significantly contribute to the advancement of our organization's goals and aspirations. Dr. Andreazza's exceptional qualifications, combined with her remarkable accomplishments as the Founder and Scientific Director of the Mitochondrial Innovation Initiative (MITO2i), make her an invaluable asset to our organization's mission and vision.

Dr. Andreazza's extensive background in mitochondrial research and medicine is truly impressive, positioning her as an exceptional candidate for this role. Her unwavering commitment to the field, coupled with her broad understanding of various disciplines, equips her with a unique perspective that will undoubtedly enrich our society's endeavors. Her diverse experiences have provided her with an encompassing grasp of the complexities surrounding mitochondrial diseases, ensuring her ability to approach challenges from multiple angles and generate innovative solutions.

Moreover, Dr. Andreazza's global perspective is an invaluable asset that will undoubtedly enhance the visibility and reach of our society, particularly in North America and South America. As a native of Brazil, she brings with her a wealth of knowledge and connections that will help bridge the gap between our European base and these vibrant regions. Her extensive network and collaborative efforts will undoubtedly foster meaningful partnerships, fostering a strong sense of international collaboration and enabling us to expand our influence beyond borders.

Furthermore, Dr. Andreazza's role as a collaborator scientist at Fondation Fondamental (France) highlights her ability to engage with diverse scientific communities, including the French community. This position has allowed her to establish fruitful collaborations and foster scientific exchange, further amplifying her impact on the field. By leveraging her involvement in this esteemed organization, Dr. Andreazza will undoubtedly forge stronger connections between our society and the French community, encouraging cross-pollination of ideas and facilitating ground-breaking research.

Under Dr. Andreazza's visionary leadership, MITO2i was established as an Institutional Strategic Initiative (ISI) in March 2020, with the generous matching funds from the Thomas C. Zachos Chair in Mitochondrial Research, a significant donor contribution to the Temerty Faculty of Medicine

Advancement. As the recipient of the Thomas C. Zachos Chair in Mitochondrial Research and the Scientific Director of MITO2i, Dr. Andreazza has spearheaded an initiative that addresses the fundamental challenges in our understanding of mitochondrial health and disease.

The creation of MITO2i was prompted by the pressing issue of the inadequate comprehension of mitochondria's role in health and disease, as well as the dearth of biomarkers and treatments for mitochondrial disorders and diseases associated with mitochondrial dysfunction. Driven by a visionary mission, MITO2i aims to revolutionize mitochondrial medicine and research through global community building, interdisciplinary collaboration, and the development of novel tools and platforms. This vision aligns perfectly with the goals of our society, underscoring Dr. Andreazza's invaluable contribution to the field.

The vision of MITO2i is to transform our understanding of mitochondrial health and disease, ultimately leading to improved diagnoses and treatments that enhance the quality of human life. By integrating mitochondrial health into routine care, MITO2i endeavors to revolutionize healthcare practices. Dr. Andreazza's leadership and expertise have been instrumental in advancing this transformative agenda, driving the integration of mitochondrial medicine into the broader medical landscape.

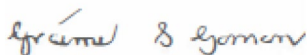
It is important to highlight that mitochondrial dysfunction extends beyond severe mitochondrial diseases, as recent research has unveiled its connections to a wide range of neurodegenerative and metabolic disorders. This breakthrough realization has significant implications for medical diagnoses, technologies, and drug delivery systems. Dr. Andreazza's pioneering work in elucidating the role of mitochondrial dysfunction in multiple diseases promises to catalyze a paradigm shift in disease prevention, diagnosis, and treatment.

As a collaborative hub, MITO2i engages all stakeholders in advancing science in the field of mitochondrial medicine and research. By fostering collaboration and knowledge exchange, Dr. Andreazza has created a vibrant ecosystem that transcends disciplinary boundaries and facilitates groundbreaking discoveries. Her role as the Founder and Scientific Director of MITO2i underscores her ability to foster a sense of community and mobilize resources towards shared goals.

In conclusion, we wholeheartedly endorse Dr. Ana Andreazza for board membership in the European Society for Mitochondrial Research and Medicine. Her visionary leadership, as evidenced by her establishment and direction of MITO2i, has revolutionized the field of mitochondrial medicine and research. Dr. Andreazza's invaluable contributions, along with her dedication to interdisciplinary collaboration and global community building, make her an exceptional candidate to further our society's mission. We urge you to support her candidacy, as she is poised to make lasting contributions to the advancement of mitochondrial research and medicine.

Thank you for your careful consideration.

Sincerely,



Professor Gráinne S Gorman



Professor Robert McFarland