



Thomas
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College

October 14, 2004

Department of
Neurological Surgery

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Dear Review Committee,

I am delighted to write this letter of reference on behalf of Mr. Jeffrey Peter Datto, AAMC ID: [REDACTED], to support his application for residency. Jeffrey is an extremely talented individual of high integrity and affable personality, who can interact very positively with his peers. Scientifically speaking, he truly stands out as one of the top one percent of researchers in the field of gene therapy and neurology.

I first met Jeffrey in the summer of 1997, when he joined the Kimmel Cancer Center at Thomas Jefferson University. I was favorably impressed by his enthusiasm and dedication in conducting his research project on gene therapy. Shortly after that, Jeffrey entered the M.D./Ph.D. program at Thomas Jefferson University. As expected, Jeffrey's study proceeded exceedingly well at Jefferson Medical College.

At the end of his second year of medical school, Jeffrey joined the CNS Gene Therapy Center of the Department of Neurosurgery, at Thomas Jefferson University, in which he carried out his research project for the Ph.D. program. I was a member of the CNS Gene Therapy myself, and I was very pleased to have the opportunity to follow Jeffrey's research activities. He conducted autonomously and dynamically a cutting edge research project on a rat model for spinal cord injury. Jeffrey was very skilled in performing surgery for spinal cord injuries, and I was very impressed by his ability in carrying out laminectomies. In addition, Jeffrey showed an extraordinary ability in gathering, interpreting and discussing the data. His communication skills are simply outstanding, and he reads constantly the literature. This is a very important aspect of Jeffrey's scientific education, which allowed him to propose and pursue innovative strategies for the development of his research project. In addition, Jeffrey was very determined to stay focused on the potential clinical relevance of his research. I consider Jeffrey to be one of the most qualified individuals to establish a translational research program.

In summary, there are very few individuals who possess the same level of extraordinary abilities and scholarly creativity of Mr. Jeffrey Datto. On these grounds, I strongly support Jeffrey's application for the residency at your institution.

Sincerely yours,

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