



August 23, 2017

To: Promotion and Tenure Committee
Department of Pediatrics
University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences

Re: _____, MD
Assistant Professor

Dear Committee Members:

I enthusiastically support Dr. _____ for promotion to Associate Professor in the Clinical Educator, Tenure Track. I am a pediatric neurologist in UAB's Department of Pediatrics and since 2006 I have headed the UAB Center for Pediatric Onset Demyelinating Disease at Children's of Alabama. Dr. _____ and I have informally interacted through the Child Neurology Society and have corresponded by email about challenging demyelinating patients.

Dr. _____ is a well-trained pediatric neurologist. She completed her undergraduate work at University of Central Arkansas, graduating summa cum laude with a BS in Biology. Among her many undergraduate accomplishments, she was named University of Central Arkansas Student of the Year in 2003. She went directly to medical school at the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences (UAMS), then continued at UAMS for her pediatric neurology residency. During her final year of residency she served as chief resident and spent one month as a visiting resident at Mayo Clinic-Rochester with their Pediatric Multiple Sclerosis Center. After completion of her residency, Dr. _____ spent 4 extra months of sub-specialty training in Clinical Neurophysiology and Epilepsy. In addition to being board certified in Neurology with Special Qualification in Child Neurology, Dr. _____ passed challenging sub-specialty exams for American Board of Clinical Neurophysiology with added competency in Epilepsy Monitoring. She also earned Epilepsy Certification from the American Board of Neurology and Psychiatry.

As a resident, Dr. _____ earned special recognition from the Veterans of Arkansas for compassion and dedication. She won scholarships to attend annual meetings of the Academy of Neurology in 2010 and Consortium of Multiple Sclerosis Centers in 2012. She won the coveted Carol Duncan Award for the best student or resident abstract at the 2012 Southern Pediatric Neurology Society meeting for her presentation entitled "Continuous EEG monitoring in critically ill children in the PICU."

Dr. _____ has continued her trajectory of excellence since joining UAMS Pediatric Neurology division as assistant professor in August 2012.

Teaching/Education: She has clearly been a productive member of the division with high marks for teaching in both formal and informal settings to diverse learners at varied stages of training. She has also given 4 invited presentations to state medical organizations. On a one-to-one basis, Dr. _____ has mentored several medical students with at least one who subsequently entered child neurology training (in our small field, we have to recruit from the womb!)

Educational leadership/Administrative Service: Dr. [redacted] took on a major educational role with significant administrative responsibilities after just two years as a faculty member when she became Program Director of the UAMS Child Neurology residency. She successfully guided several struggling residents to program completion. Under her leadership, the program has maintained ACGME accreditation. Dr. [redacted]' involvement in education extends nationally with her membership on Child Neurology Society committees for Clinical Competency and Program Evaluation.

Research/Scholarly Work: Importantly, she is the site-PI for a double-blind randomized controlled trial of injected versus oral disease modifying therapy for pediatric multiple sclerosis (MS). I am the site-PI of the same study at Children's of Alabama and as this was the first-ever clinical trial in pediatric MS, it was no small undertaking to launch this study. Dr. [redacted] also serves as co-site PI on a number of clinical trials of novel anti-convulsants for pediatric epilepsy.

Dr. [redacted] has contributed to the scientific literature as first or senior author on 3 peer-reviewed journal articles and co-author on 8 case reports.

Clinical Service: I have interacted with Dr. [redacted] mostly through our shared interest in pediatric multiple sclerosis (MS) and related demyelinating disorders. By establishing the only Pediatric Multiple Sclerosis clinic in Arkansas, Dr. [redacted] has built a strong reputation for her expertise in pediatric demyelinating disorders and has been designated as a Partner in MS Care by the National Multiple Sclerosis Society (NMSS). I know first-hand how complex and time-consuming her pediatric demyelinating patients can be as some of these children were referred to my center in Alabama before Dr. [redacted] started her demyelinating clinic. She is involved in community advocacy through her involvement with the Leadership Council of the Arkansas NMSS chapter.

All of Dr. [redacted]' accomplishments outlined above have been achieved in the setting of significant clinical responsibilities. For several months a year she staffs the general pediatric neurology inpatient service and interprets long term EEG studies. During weeks that Dr. [redacted] is not covering the inpatient service, she staffs 8 half-day outpatient clinics per week. Her high clinical productivity is reflected by her being one of the highest RVU generators in her division.

Thank you for the opportunity to review Dr. [redacted]' portfolio. If she were on faculty in the UAB Department of Pediatrics, she would be highly valued partner within our Pediatric Neurology division and would be a strong candidate for promotion to Associate Professor.



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