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Re : PM/cdg

Prilly, le February 20,2013

To whom it may concern,

This letter is to express my strong support of the proposal for a *ERC Consolidator grant 2013* by Prof. Sven Bergmann.

I am a Professor at the Department of Psychiatry of the University Hospital Center and University of Lausanne, Switzerland. Head of an epidemiological research unit, my main research interests involve the familial aggregation and genetic determinants of psychiatric disorders. I am the Principle Investigator of ***PsyCoLaus***, a population-based cohort was set up in order to study the association between psychiatric disorders and cardio-vascular risk factors, as well as genetic variants and other biomarkers. I have had the pleasure to collaborate with Dr. Bergmann and his group on the analysis of *PsyCoLaus* data in the context of a gene-centered study lead by our colleagues Dr Sergiy Libert and Prof. Leonard Guarente from MIT, entitled "SIRT1 Activates MAO-A in the Brain to Mediate Anxiety and Exploratory Drive" that was published in *Cell* 147 (7) p.1459.

I am very enthusiastic about the research proposed by Dr. Bergmann. In particular, I find it exciting to analyze the *PsyCoLaus* data in a global and unsupervised fashion, relating mood disorder diagnoses with personality traits. Also the proposed analysis of the metabolomics data in this context, seems promising given the known correlation between mood-disorders and metabolism.

In summary, I will give my full support to the research proposed by Dr. Bergmann, and sincerely hope that it will be funded by the ERC.

With best wishes,

Prof. Martin Preisig