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Justification for the Award of Distinction for Anoop Kallingal's PhD thesis

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I strongly recommend Anoop Kallingal's PhD thesis, titled '*Mechanistic studies on selected novel anticancer compounds modulating the function of telomeric proteins*' for the award of distinction.

The dissertation is an excellent piece of scientific work, reflecting a very substantial research effort, a high level of scientific maturity and the candidate's ability to address complex biological questions. The thesis stands out for the quality and breadth of the experimental work, the rigorous analysis and interpretation of the results and the clarity with which the findings are presented and discussed in the context of the existing literature. The dissertation demonstrates the candidate's critical thinking, scientific independence and ability to make meaningful contributions to the field.

Overall, I consider this thesis to be of outstanding scientific quality and fully deserving of the award of distinction.

Sincerely,

Claus M. Azzalin, PhD

