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SCHOOL of MEDICINE

Comprehensive Cancer Center
Section on Hematology and Oncology

Barbara MacKay Vinson, President
MacKay Foundation for Cancer Research
7 Thimbleberry Square
Greensboro, NC 27455

February 3, 2012

Dear Barbara:

Thank you so very much for your continued support of our efforts in Coagulation Research. Let me bring you up to date on the investigations which your funding has made possible. As you are aware, I use the funds to leverage the efforts of our Fellows in Training who spend time in coagulation research.

My lab is mainly focused on Thrombotic Thrombocytopenic Purpura (TTP). This deadly disorder can now be controlled, and we make progress toward a reliable cure. Much effort over the past few years has gone into developing and applying an assay for ADAMTS13, a critical factor in the development of TTP. Dr Knovich and I have a publication under review detailing our application of such measurements.

Dr Farland is working to develop a blood test for brain injury which we hope will allow us to make better prognoses in patients with TTP. Dr Usrey is looking at another blood test which we hope will allow the diagnosis of a disorder closely related to TTP, but which requires very different treatment.

Additionally, Jessica Moorefield and I are working on developing a simplified assay for anticoagulation. We expect this to significantly improve the management of patients receiving low molecular weight heparin.

Again, I thank you for making these projects possible.

Sincerely,

John Owen MD MBA FRCPC FACP
Professor of Medicine, Hematology and Oncology