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Prof. Dr. med. Dr. rer. nat. Tobias Banaschewski
Medical Director and Deputy Director, Department of Child and
Adolescent Psychiatry and Psychotherapy, Central Institute of Mental
Health, Medical Faculty Mannheim
Heidelberg University
Email: tobias.banaschewski@zi-mannheim.de

Dear Tobias:

I am writing to confirm my intention to collaborate with you in your proposed German Center for Child and Youth Health, CHILDhealth. Your focus on early transdiagnostic risks (preterm birth, childhood adversity), brain development, and their longitudinal adverse mental and somatic outcomes is state of the art given findings that have emerged from clinical, genetic and brain imaging research during the past decade.

I am impressed that your application contains an interdisciplinary and translational research group, combining child and adolescent psychiatric expertise on child health along the translational chain from basic science to epidemiological and clinical research. I like how you have integrated four research platforms into childHealth: cohort integration, developmental disease models, therapy and prevention and pharmacovigilance. This should be an effective way to generate meaningful, translational research. In this regard, the synergy between the Center of Child Health and the Center for Mental Health will also be very useful.

It is entirely feasible for me to cooperate with you in this newly founded center as regards disentangling the developmental trajectories of ADHD and comorbid mental disorders or transdiagnostic traits contributing to somatic and mental disorders. I have been working in these areas for over three decades. Also, you and I have been co-authors on 67 papers, which shows we have worked out all collaborative issues. In my role as President of the World Federation of ADHD, I will be able to help you network with other ADHD experts as needed to facilitate the goals of your Center.

In sum, I am enthusiastic about collaborating with you and your team in what should be a very productive and impactful project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "S. V. Faraone".

Stephen V. Faraone, PhD