



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Public Health Service

National Institutes of Health
Bethesda, Maryland 20892

February 14th, 2021

Letter of Intent in Support of Center for Child Health

Dear Tobias,

As you know, I am a Senior Investigator and Chief of the Clinical and Computational Psychiatry Section of National Institute of Mental Health, at the National Institutes of Health, as a Professor Clinical Psychiatry at Georgetown University and President Elect of the International Society for Child and Adolescent Psychopathology (ISRCAP). I am writing to you to declare my full support of your efforts to build the new Center for Child Health. Your proposal is innovative, speaks to key aspects of child mental health and is bound to be a center of excellence in the field in Europe and the rest of the world.

Over the years, we have been collaborating with you and your colleagues on some of the most pressing issues of Child mental health. We have focused in particular on the questions of emotion dysregulation and irritability and its links with depression, one of the commonest and potentially lethal disorders in youth. My group has published epidemiological, genetic, imaging and metanalytic papers on this question. We have access to large cohorts, have developed novel experimental methodological approaches, and have recently been specializing in developing computational models for mood fluctuations in adolescents and adults. Given the outstanding expertise that your proposal amasses, we will be able to collaborate closely through exchange of expertise in pursuit of your very important goals of integrating child mental health within a broader child health focus.

As you also know, I have been following your impressive efforts to build a center of world-renowned excellence in Germany. This is not least because of my close ties to Germany (I did my basic studies there and completed my first dissertation). I visit the country frequently for conferences and I have had the opportunity to see you and team in action at Mannheim. I am strongly hoping that this will be an opportunity further to build on all the groundwork over the years. I believe that the Center for Child Health that you are envisaging is extremely important for children and adolescents in Germany, but will also generate knowledge that will benefit children all around the world. Once again, I declare my commitment to helping and collaborating in whatever way I can towards your very important goals.

Yours sincerely

Argyris Stringaris, MD, PhD, FRCPsych

Senior Investigator

Chief of Section of Clinical and Computational Psychiatry
National Institute of Mental Health, Intramural Program

Professor of Clinical Psychiatry
Georgetown University

President Elect (2019 – 2021)
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