



February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021

Dear Dr. Juan C. Sáez

This letter is to express Janssen Oncology's interest to collaborate with Centro Interdisciplinario de Neurociencias de Valparaíso (CINV) in the project entitled "*Modulation of extracellular ATP concentration and its impact in anti-tumor immunity*".

Dr. Juan C. Sáez, Professor, Institute of Neuroscience, Faculty of Sciences, Universidad de Valparaíso, and Deputy Director of the Millennium Institute Centro Interdisciplinario de Neurociencia de Valparaíso.

Dr. Juan Carlos Sáez is a member of the National Academy of Sciences, USA. He is well known for his studies on connexin-based gap junctions and hemichannel functions under normal and pathological conditions. Dr Sáez provided the first evidence of connexins post translational modifications by phosphorylation and nitrosylation, and gap junction permeability to IP3 and Ca2+. In addition, he has pioneered the view that immune system cells form transient gap junctions that regulate immune function. His team also demonstrated that hemichannels can open in normal mammalian cells without affecting their viability, and that under pathological conditions they are critical for the inflammasome activation in skeletal myofibers and glial cells.

Currently, Janssen Oncology and CINV are in preliminary discussions regarding this collaborative work. The proposed research collaboration will likely be funded by Janssen Oncology and the budget period will be for up to three years, with an expected start date in 2H of 2021. The total budget for this research collaboration will be no more than \$ 50,000.00 US dollars/year.

Our organizations are subject to internal and external compliance regulations that will all have to be met before the research collaboration agreement could be executed.

Sincerely,

**Manuel Sepulveda**  
Digitally signed by Manuel Sepulveda  
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