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Dear Members of THSNA Award Committee,

As the recipient of the THSNA Travel-To-A-Mentor-Award, I would like to express my sincerest gratitude for the tremendous support that you have provided me through this award. Over the course of my work as a Research Scientist at the Blood Center of Wisconsin, I have studied platelet physiology in the aspects of normal hemostasis and pathologic thromboses. THSNA Travel-To-A-Mentor-Award has allowed me to not only maintain focus on my studies and research, but to also learn a novel microengineered vascularized bleeding model. This model incorporates all the core components of primary and secondary hemostasis and therefore would allow us to advance the role of procoagulant platelets in hemostatic plug formation and thrombosis.

We have recently identified multiple members of two unrelated families in Milwaukee, Wisconsin having a rare inherited bleeding disorder. This platelet disorder results in decreased quality of life due to easy bruising, prolonged bleedings, anemias, epistaxis, menorrhagia and potential life-threatening conditions in case of trauma related hemorrhages. Delineating the functional mechanisms of this bleeding disorder using the learnt technique will provide novel insights into the physiologic and pathophysiologic regulation of thrombogenesis, and would also have a potential to identify pharmacologic targets for the antithrombotic therapy.

I thank you once again for your generous support in this endeavor.

Sincerely,



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