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13<sup>th</sup> of June 2016.

To whom it concerns,

I am writing to support Dr: Abbas Cheddad in his application.

My name is Christoffer Nord, Ph.D. (2016) in molecular medicine at Umeå Centre for Molecular Medicine, Umeå University.

I have learned to know Dr. Cheddad during my Ph.D. studies in the research group of Prof. Ulf Ahlgren. The main focus of my PhD studies was imaging the disease onset and progression of multiple types of Diabetes mellitus in animal models.

Dr. Cheddad was an extremely valued asset proving to have great potential for work in multidisciplinary areas with a deep understanding in many areas of computer science, such as image processing, optical projection tomography, data mining, programming and information security. Furthermore, he showed ability to adapt to other research areas (such as developmental biology and molecular medicine) well away from his own comfort zone and thus bridging a knowledge gap between biology and computer science.

He was the main collaborator on two as well as an active part of a few other studies (published in ISI journals) in these studies he provided qualitative supervision.

Even though we are no longer working together he always made time in his schedule for discussions regarding solutions during the writhing of my thesis as well as insightful ideas to my dissertation.

We still keep in touch for discussions regarding problems, novel ideas etc. and I am looking forward to possible future collaboration.

I can happily recommend Dr. Cheddad, as an experienced researcher he does not only share his knowledge, he also demonstrates skills of problem identification, solving as well as presentation of the solutions in an understandable pedagogic fashion. This in combination with a high dedication and will to give guidance suggests that he will be a responsible advisor to future PhD students.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Christoffer Nord'.

Christoffer Nord, Ph.D.  
Umeå Centre for Molecular Medicine  
Umeå University, Sweden.