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November 23, 2010

Re: Dr. Victor Pedro

Dear President Leonor Beleza:

It is my pleasure to write a letter of recommendation for Dr. Victor Pedro. I have known Dr. Pedro for several years and during this time I have gotten to know him really well. I have referred many patients to his care including those patients that I really did not know what else to do for them. Most of my referrals are patients that either have complex regional pain syndrome or neurologic problems that no one else understands or knows how to treat.

I have spent several days at his office personally observing the way that he evaluates, diagnosis and treats these patients. One of the main reasons that I have spent time at his office is due to the fact that one of my referrals was my own father. To say that I am impressed would be an understatement. His knowledge and understanding of the nervous system is above anyone else that I have met in my professional life.

As an Upper extremity surgeon, I am able to repair bone, tendon, vessels, and skin quite well but the number one problem remains nerve regeneration that leads to near normal use of the injured part. Hand therapists are trying to treat problems that have both a peripheral and central nervous system component. Not surprisingly, the results have not been very satisfying as we are not addressing the central nervous system part of the problem. This is an area where Cortical Integrative Therapy could bridge the gap between what we do and what can be done in order to maximize the function that these patients end up with for the rest of their lives. Throughout my collaboration with Dr. Pedro, he is able to draw and explain in detail the visual and integrative pathways of the problem and the treatment in order to correct the deficiency. From a clinical perspective, the degree of detail and thoroughness of his reports and office notes are impeccable and represent his knowledge of the neuroanatomy as well as his ability to translate that knowledge into clinical application.

As an active clinician, I have to deal with people that have sustained traumatic injuries to their fingers, hands, elbows and shoulders. Out of the 800+ surgical procedures I do every year, there is nothing more difficult to treat in my practice than nerve related pain or nerve injuries.

It is my sincere belief that Dr. Pedro is able to apply basic research knowledge that we have and through visual/oculomotor applications he is able to integrate it and use it successfully in different clinical applications. The potential impact in human suffering can be massive and that, is what I consider to be truly successful translational research.

I would be happy to talk to you personally and answer any questions or concerns you might have via email (Manuel_Dasilva@brown.edu) or my cell phone (401-487-3713). Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,


Manuel F. DaSilva, MD

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