



Boston University School of Medicine



EXCEPTIONAL CARE. WITHOUT EXCEPTION.

December 11, 2023

Dear AMA Women Physicians Section Governing Council,

It is my distinct pleasure to recommend Minali Prasad for re-appointment to the AMA Women Physicians Section Governing Council as the Medical Student Section Representative. I am the Vice-Chairman of Faculty Affairs and an Associate Professor in the Department of Ophthalmology at the Boston University Chobanian & Avedisian School of Medicine. I also serve on the Gender Equity Advisory Council of Boston University Medical Center. Since her last semester of college, I have mentored Minali in several contexts, including the majority of her research projects, her ophthalmology clinical rotation, and in community service activities.

Throughout our time together, Minali has consistently expressed an interest in examining health disparities affecting underserved populations. For example, she co-founded a student organization, Boston Sight Savers, that hosts free vision screenings at homeless shelters in South Boston, including women's shelters. While working remotely for her research fellowship at the National Institutes of Health, she continues to organize monthly sessions through regular communication with the on-site shelter directors. More recently, she spearheaded a research project investigating the association between central serous chorioretinopathy and socioeconomic determinants of health. She single-handedly led project administration, displaying exceptional verbal and written communication skills to guide a team of four college and medical students in data collection and statistical analysis. Beyond her excellent teamwork and leadership skills, she has demonstrated efficient time management by balancing her position on the WPS GC with a full-time research fellowship, board studying, volunteering, and numerous research projects with me. Despite her busy schedule, she continues to display persistence and motivation in producing high-quality work in all her pursuits. I enjoy learning about her work on the WPS GC, and I am confident that given her research and community service background, she will make a lasting impact in advancing the council's mission during her second term.

Minali's intention to serve on the WPS GC is driven by her pursuit to improve health disparities and advance the professional development of women in medicine. Her thoughtful approach, professionalism, research focus on health disparities, and teamwork skills position her well for success on the AMA WPS GC. It is for these numerous reasons that I enthusiastically support her application without any reservations.

Sincerely,

Manju Subramanian MD

Associate Professor

Vice-Chairman of Faculty Affairs

Boston University Chobanian & Avedisian School of Medicine

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