



Albert Einstein College of Medicine of Yeshiva University

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To Whom It May Concern:

I am pleased to recommend Dr. Abdelkrim Alileche for a faculty position at your institution. "Krim" worked for more than 2 years in the lab of Dr. Jürgen Brojatsch, who is a member of the Department of Microbiology and Immunology. During this time, I had many enjoyable discussions with Krim about his work and about science in general. I also was present at two of his internal work-in-progress seminars, during which I had the chance to review his data and moderate the discussion about his experiments. It was impressive that Krim was doing such interesting work on anthrax in the Brojatsch lab, which was in a period of transition converting their original goals of understanding induction of death in avian retrovirus-infected cells to the fascinating and timely area of cell death following exposure of cells to anthrax toxin. Krim's seminars were memorable for the clarity of his presentation and his ability to dissect the complexities of anthrax-induced cell death.

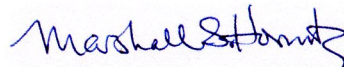
Krim's studies on anthrax toxin-mediated cell killing led to several significant findings. Techniques that he established allowed him to show that specific murine as well as human immune cells are efficiently killed by the anthrax toxin. Krim made the important discovery that the anthrax lethal toxin (LT) induced distinct cell death pathways dependent upon the genetic background of murine cells. For example, the toxin triggered apoptosis in dendritic cells from specific murine strains, and necrosis in dendritic cells isolated from other inbred mice. He also showed that proteasomes play a fundamental role in anthrax toxin-mediated cell killing, which could be inhibited using inhibitors of proteasomal function. Krim also was able to clone and tag receptors for the anthrax toxin. In addition, he showed in an elegant way that anthrax toxin treatment led to an impairment of the immune response in mice. I enjoyed his presentations of these projects. He published the anthrax toxin receptor project, and I have seen several of the other manuscripts describing his experiments on dendritic cell killing when they

were submitted to journals. One of these projects was done collaboratively with members of Dr. Steven Porcelli's laboratory, which was an excellent source of immunologic expertise as well as reagents. This resource augmented Krim's already extensive knowledge of immunology, which he obtained during his time in the Waldmann laboratory at NIH.

On a personal level, Krim is a very dedicated scientist, who also has a medical background. He has a pleasant personality, is very well informed about modern science and a mature intelligent approach to his experimental work and choice of projects. I can recommend him with no reservations and believe he will continue to succeed as an experimental scientist.

MSH:gd

Sincerely,



Marshall S. Horwitz M.D.
Professor & Chairman