

LETTER OF SUPPORT

To: **To Whom It May Concern**

From: **Nguyen Ly Thinh Truong, MD, PhD**

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Re: Supporting **Mrs. Tran Thi Mai Huong** to conduct a research study in the Heart Center

Hanoi, 28th March, 2023

Dear Sir/Madam,

This letter is to support Mrs Tran Thi Mai Huong to conduct a research study titled "*the effectiveness of an evidence-based health education program for parents of children undergoing congenital heart disease (CHD) surgery in Vietnam*" in the Heart Center, Vietnam National Children's Hospital. Mrs Tran is one of my nursing staff who has worked for the Hospital for almost 18 years, and she is currently on study leave for PhD course in the Queensland University of Technology, Brisbane, Australia.

Thanks to advancements in surgical techniques, more Vietnamese children are receiving CHD surgical repair. However, due to low attention to doing health education for parents of these affected children by healthcare staff, parents' CHD knowledge remains extremely low. Therefore, these affected children receive inappropriate care from their parents with limited disease specific management behaviours leading to care-related complications after surgery at the post-discharge phase. For example, affected children have severe hypoxia related to late recognition and electrolyte imbalance associated with poor adherence to the child's medications by parents. These complications may contribute to poor short-term and long-term health outcomes for children after surgery.

Improving parents' understanding of disease specific knowledge might prevent the affected children from such complications. Mrs Tran's research project would be a practical and possible study which helps to fill the knowledge gaps for parents. Hence, parents are able to provide their

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children with appropriate care which in turn increases their health outcomes. For this reason, I would like to give Mrs Tran great support to make her research project possible. Specifically, I will give her time to do health education for parents, which is an important step in her data collection process. Furthermore, Mrs Tran will be given rights to use available learning materials such as artificial heart models for health education and equipment for medication preparation. She can have free use of meeting halls in the Heart Center for group training sessions. Finally, I will provide her with constructive feedback on data collection activities to ensure patient safety and research integrity.

I believe that this research project would bring great benefits for parents and their affected children in Vietnam. Hence, I would like to receive your kind consideration regarding the assessment of Mrs Tran's ethics application. If additional information is required, please feel free to contact me.

Thank you for your kind consideration!

Yours sincerely,



Nguyen Ly Thinh Truong