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Remondi Family Endowed MGH Research Institute Chair

August 11, 2025

Subject: Reference Letter for Catriona Grant

To the IACRN Board of Directors Nominating Committee,

It is my pleasure to enthusiastically recommend Catriona Grant for the position of Member-at-Large on the 2026 International Association of Clinical Research Nurses (IACRN) Board of Directors. I have had the privilege of working with Catriona for over a decade at my lab at Massachusetts General Hospital (MGH), where she has made significant contributions to translational clinical research and advancing the Clinical Research Nurse (CRN) role within and beyond our institution.

As a seasoned Clinical Research Nurse with over ten years of experience, Catriona brings deep expertise in leading complex, multidisciplinary clinical studies. Our lab, composed of a large, multidisciplinary team, develops and translates novel optical imaging technologies for use in human studies. In this demanding setting, Catriona consistently exemplifies the highest standards of CRN practice—ensuring patient safety, regulatory compliance, and research integrity.

Beyond her role as head of my clinical and regulatory team, Catriona serves as our Senior Director of Operations, managing a team of approximately 30 and overseeing a broad spectrum of responsibilities, from administration and HR to space management, compliance, and clinical device development. In many ways she is my right hand, ensuring the critical functions of a large laboratory run smoothly so that I can focus on fundraising and setting new scientific directions. She excels in this role, remaining responsible, conscientious, and unwaveringly committed to keeping our lab safe, efficient, and productive. Catriona has introduced new systems for personnel feedback and advancement, fostering accountability while recognizing and rewarding exceptional performance. She is highly organized, responsive, and effective, and is the best operations director one could hope for. She is an invaluable asset to our team and a key driver of our success. I truly cannot imagine my lab without her.

In addition to her operational and clinical excellence, Catriona is a passionate and effective leader. She currently mentors two CRNs within our lab, however her leadership extends well beyond the lab. As a long-time contributor to the MGH Clinical Research Nurse Collaborative, Catriona served as the group's Co-Chair from 2019 to 2022 and now continues to provide guidance as an Advisor. In this role, she has led initiatives to strengthen interdisciplinary collaboration, improve education for research nurses, and reinforce the bridge between research and clinical care.

Outside of my laboratory, Catriona currently serves as the President of the International Association of Clinical Research Nurses (IACRN) Boston–New England Chapter. Her commitment to connecting CRNs across the New England area is a testament to her vision for a more unified and empowered CRN workforce.

In summary, Catriona's proven track record of operational excellence, strategic vision, and commitment to advancing clinical research make her an exceptional candidate for the IACRN Board of Directors. She combines deep hands-on experience with the ability to mentor, inspire, and lead teams toward ambitious goals. Her

perspective would enrich the Board's discussions, her leadership would strengthen its initiatives, and her dedication would help drive the organization's mission forward. IACRN would be fortunate to benefit from her insight, expertise, and unwavering commitment.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Guillermo J. Tearney". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial 'G' and 'T'.

Guillermo J. Tearney, MD, PhD, FACC, FCAP, FNAI

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