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Dear Members of the LAM Community;

I am thrilled to announce that the LAM Professorship for LAM Research was established at the University of Cincinnati on December 16, 2020, and soon thereafter Dr. Nishant Gupta was named to the Chair. Nishant has been intimately involved with LAM science and clinical care for over a decade, seeing LAM patients in clinic, serving as a reviewer for grants, obtaining funding for LAM from multiple sources, publishing important works, and leading independent studies and NIH trials. I have complete confidence in him, his instincts, his talents and his commitment to LAM, and I cannot think of a more deserving person to hold the LAM Chair. I would like to thank all who made this possible, including the TLF Community, the TLF Board, Sue Sherman and Molly Long, the Hoy and Crissey Families, and Dean Filak and the Hagin Family Match Fund Program at the University of Cincinnati.

The establishment of the Chair is an amazing accomplishment for the LAM community that will ensure consistent scientific leadership into the future. This is also an opportune moment for an important transition. After 25 years as the volunteer LAM Scientific Director, I have informed the Board that I feel it is time for the new ideas and energy that new scientific leadership will bring. This decision is very difficult for me, but my motivation is simple and sincere; I believe it is in the best interest of the organization. Serving the LAM community has been a singular privilege and a source of immeasurable joy and fulfillment that I would not have traded for the world.

I was informed this evening that the LAM Board has appointed Nishant the new Scientific Director of the LAM Foundation, which gives me great comfort that I have left this position in the best of hands. He will impress you with his vision and insights, and I am confident that he is going to take LAM science to the next level. At the same time, I am not retiring from medicine, science or LAM, and I have no intention of saying good-bye. I hope to assume an Emeritus Scientific Director role, help out where I can be useful, and continue to serve as a rank and file member of the Scientific Advisory Board. These decisions are up to the Board of Directors, of course, but I have confidence that they will find the best path forward for all of us.

I am so proud of all of the scientific accomplishments we have achieved together over the last quarter century, including the establishment of a committed scientific advisory board and community of investigators, an effective and fair mechanism to fund the most promising science, an astounding body of molecular knowledge that formed the basis for trials, a clinical research network to conduct them, a highly engaged world-wide network of LAM clinics and passionate clinicians, a diagnostic test, an effective, FDA approved therapy, international guidelines for management, and now an endowed Chair. It was not so long ago that we felt helpless in front of LAM families in our clinics, replaced now by the joy of greeting new patients with such a hopeful message. The engine behind all of our successes has been the remarkable level of engagement of the LAM community and the driving

determination of our clinicians and scientists to help the daughters, sisters, and mothers who have entrusted us with the mission of getting their lives back.

I would like to thank the members of the LAM Scientific Advisory and Governing Boards who have worked so hard to guide this remarkable organization through recessions, pandemics and transitions, and all members of the LAM Community who have enriched my life over the last 25 years. I hope to have the privilege of continuing to serve you well into the future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Frank McCormack, M.D." with a small circular mark at the end.

Frank McCormack, M.D.,