KCNT1 EPILEPSY
HOPE IS ON THE HORIZON

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Penn Medicine Orphan Disease Center and KCNT1 Epilepsy Foundation Award Co-Funded Research Grant to Rajvinder Karda, PhD, University College London

Following a comprehensive evaluation process, the Penn Medicine Orphan Disease Center and the KCNT1 Epilepsy Foundation are delighted to jointly award their co-funded research grant to Dr. Rajvinder Karda, PhD, from the University College London, whose proposal demonstrated exceptional promise in advancing options to use gene editing to treat KCNT1 mutations. "We are excited to work with KCNT1 Epilepsy Foundation on our RNA editing treatment approach for KCNT1-related epilepsies. In our proof-of-concept research project, we aim to gather robust data, in hope to move closer to an alternative treatment for the KCNT1 community", stated Dr Karda after the announcement.

The Penn Medicine Orphan Disease Center and the KCNT1 Epilepsy Foundation's joint initiative aims to accelerate research efforts for the rare genetic KCNT1-related epilepsy disorder. The grant application process garnered a substantial response, with eight Letters of Intent submitted and accepted for consideration. "We are thrilled to witness such robust interest and commitment from the research community in advancing KCNT1 research," said Justin West, President of the KCNT1 Epilepsy Foundation. "This collaboration allows us to pool our resources and expertise to address this rare disease comprehensively. Congratulations to Dr. Karda, and we look forward to the impact their research will have on the advancement of gene editing options for the KCNT1 community."

The Scientific Outreach Officer of the KCNT1 Foundation, Ali Rosenberg, PhD, emphasized the significance of partnerships and engagement with the worldwide biomedical research community in the quest for solutions to rare diseases. "This collaboration exemplifies our and the Penn Medicine Orphan Disease Center's shared mission to address KCNT1-related disorders. By co-funding research initiatives and working together, we are amplifying our impact and advancing towards tangible outcomes for affected individuals and families." The remaining proposals will be considered for private funding from the KCNT1 Epilepsy Foundation.

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