

Re: Letter of Reference for Dr. Lisa Nagy

June 12, 2017

To Whom It May Concern:

I am pleased to recommend Dr. Lisa Nagy as an educator in the field of Environmental Medicine. As the current Director of the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS) and the National Toxicology Program (NTP), as well as a former Division Director with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), I have the experience and training to evaluate the work of Dr. Nagy. As she explained at her 2016 presentation on our NIEHS campus, she has suffered from Chemical Sensitivity, dysautonomia, Addison's Disease, mitochondrial myopathy (if not early ALS) from mold and pesticide exposure. Luckily, she has completely recovered to tell her story; I believe that as a result she is truly dedicated to changing health care for the better by helping clinicians get to the cause of many chronic diseases.

If Dr. Nagy, a graduate of University of Pennsylvania and Cornell Medical College and a practicing emergency room physician, had never heard of Environmental Medicine or chemical sensitivity in her training, then surely other doctors, scientists, and the general public had not either. This disconnect in research and information caused Dr. Nagy to shift her career to educating the public, medical students, doctors, Congress, the Veteran's Administration, and the National Institute of Health (NIH) about environmental health.

Dr. Nagy feels that a thoughtful history, in many cases, could reveal an exposure incident that could be the trigger for life-threatening neurologic, autoimmune, psychiatric, or endocrine disease, or even sometimes several diseases. It is through her training at The America Academy of Environmental Medicine (www.aemonline.org) and under the mentorship of William Rea M.D., Doris Rapp M.D., William Meggs M.D., Allan Lieberman M.D., and many other legends in the field that she has become well versed in the diagnostic and treatment techniques and history Environmental Medicine.

The NIEHS responded to Dr. Nagy's presentation with the public statement, "Environmental Medicine shows promise for treating chronic disease." This illustrated my support for her efforts to expand our understanding about the influence of chemicals and molds on human health. I heartily recommend Dr. Nagy as a speaker at your institution, for a presidential commission on health care, and to curricula chairpersons in their endeavor to make medical education the best it can be, as Dr. Nagy would make an excellent teacher.

Sincerely,

Linda Birnbaum, Ph.D., D.A.B.T., A.T.S.

