

Public Health Service

National Institutes of Health

National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke Building 10, Room 12N201 10 Center Drive, MSC 1477 Bethesda, Maryland 20892-1477

March 25, 2015

To whom it may concern:

This is a letter of support to provide background information for the visa application of Claudia Digregorio. Claudia has a severe and progressive neurologic disorder of unknown etiology. She has remained undiagnosed despite evaluations by multiple specialists throughout Italy.

The National Institute for Neurological Disorders and Stroke (NINDS) of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) in Bethesda, Maryland has invited Claudia Digregorio to participate in a clinical research study. She has a rare neurological condition. We are interested in seeing Claudia in our clinical research clinic in Bethesda, Maryland for the advancement of the understanding of -and the potential treatment of- her severe condition. During Claudia's visit, she will have a schedule comprised of approximately 3 days of appointments at the NIH. All of the medical care he receives at the National Institutes of Health will be free of charge to her and her family.

Because Claudia cannot walk and relies on a wheelchair as well as assistance for all of her activities of daily living, she will need to be accompanied by her parents for this trip.

We have tentatively scheduled Claudia's appointment at the NIH for September 2015, pending your approval of their non-immigrant visas. Please consider this in granting her and her parents visas to visit the US for her clinical evaluation and participation in our clinical research study.

With best wishes,

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