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Subject:
Proposal Dr Brandon D. Gallas

Dear reviewers,

With this letter I want to express my support for the proposal submitted by Dr Brandon Gallas, aimed at collecting evidence for use of computational pathology algorithms. My own research focuses on the development of such algorithms, and I am therefore very interested in being involved in this project.

My research focuses on the development of algorithms that may aid anatomic pathology practice. Last few years, we have witnessed a significant increase in the possibilities of machine learning (ML). Combined with whole slide imaging, ML has the potential to automate certain tasks of pathologists. As part of this pursuit, we organized two so-called 'grand challenges' (CAMELYON16 and 17) in which computational researchers were invited to work on a diagnostically relevant problem in histopathology. An important result of CAMELYON16 is that we now have algorithms that are capable of performing one specific task (detection of lymph node metastases) at the same level as trained pathologists.

To support Dr Gallas' project, we may provide glass slides from our challenges as well as expertise in the areas of algorithm development, organization of challenges and use of algorithms in Pathology practice in general. We hope you will be able to advise positively on this project, as I am confident that it will further the field of computational Pathology, which in turn may offer large benefits to the health care system.

Best regards,



Dr Jeroen van der Laak, PhD
Associate Professor in Computational Pathology

