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3rd September 2021

Jia-Ru Fan,
Science Editor
Baishideng Publishing Group Inc
7041 Koll Center Parkway,
Suite 160,
Pleasanton,
CA 94566,
USA

Re: Niall Hardy, Manuscript number: 67748

Dear Ms Fan,

This is to confirm that Niall Hardy is a Surgical Researcher at University College Dublin and the Mater Misericordiae University Hospital, Dublin. Niall's post is funded by an award from the Disruptive Technologies Innovation Fund (DTIF) entitled 'The Future of Colorectal Cancer Diagnosis and Treatment: Combining Tissue Responsive Probes, AI and Machine Learning to Transform Medical Care'. The DTIF is administered by Enterprise Ireland on behalf of the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment. The project has total funding of €5.7 million and duration is 14-Oct-19 to 13-Oct-22. I am the Principal Investigator on this project.

If you require any further information please do not hesitate to contact me (ronan.cahill@ucd.ie).

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ronan Cahill', written over a horizontal line.

Prof. Ronan Cahill
General Surgeon & Colorectal Surgeon
MCRN: 021154
UCD Full Professor of Surgery