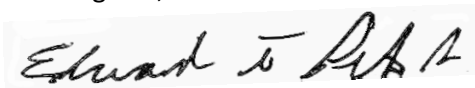


01-March-2023

Dear Editors:

This letter is to certify that I, **Prof dr. Edward Petri**, am a U.S.-born native English speaking scientist (Ph.D. in Biochemistry from the University of Rochester; postdoctoral fellow at Yale University School of Medicine), and have carefully edited the attached **revised** manuscript for English grammar and content. I have 25 years experience in biochemical and biomedical research and have authored numerous publications in English in peer-reviewed scientific journals, with over 1000 citations. In addition, I have over 12 years experience editing a wide-range of scientific manuscripts for English (e.g. *Scientific Reports*, *Virology*, *Molecular and cellular endocrinology* etc.). I am also a member of the executive editorial board of a local scientific journal. If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact me.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Edward T. Petri". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized 'E' and 'P'.

Dr. Edward T. Petri
Associate Professor
Department of Biology and Ecology
Faculty of Sciences
University of Novi Sad
Novi Sad, Serbia
edward.petri@dbe.uns.ac.rs