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Mr Mark Smith  
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To whom it may concern,

It is a great pleasure to write a reference for Mr. Mark Smith. I have known Mark since he joined the Westmead Millennium Institute for Medical Research (now the Westmead Institute for Medical Research) in 1997 as Research Manager. At that time the Westmead Millennium Institute was part of the Research Division of the Western Sydney Area Health Service. Over the years Mark has performed an excellent job for research in both the Institute and the Area Health Service (now the Local Health District). With his scientific background and managerial experience Mark has proven to be an excellent scientific manager. He is diligent, pays attention to detail and is highly knowledgeable. He was responsible for many aspects of the development of the first building of the Westmead Millennium Institute, which was opened in the year 2000, interfacing with architects, builders and scientists and guiding the delivery and ultimately operations of the finished building. Mark has also served as the Research Administration Officer interfacing with NHMRC and the Secretary of the Institutional Biosafety Committee interfacing with the Office of Gene Technology Regulation where his knowledge of the appropriate processes and the regulations of research has been invaluable. He interfaces well with the scientific staff and is an extraordinary repository of key information required for compliance with all aspects of the regulation of research. He also has excellent information technology skills and is also skilled in website maintenance.

We were disappointed that he elected to stay with the Research Network of the Western Sydney Local Health District and not the newly independent Westmead Millennium Institute. Nevertheless, he has performed a particularly important role in facilitating the transition of the new institute into independence and afterwards has retained an important and cordial role in interfacing between the two organisations. This was particularly reflected in his continued excellent work within WSLHD which continued to provide IBC services to the new institute and through his membership of and active promotion of research in the Westmead Research Hub. I observed directly his scientific knowledge, skills and advocacy for research exercised through the WSLHD Research Development Committee (the Board committee for research) of which I was a member for several years. I highly recommend him as a Science Manager and would be glad to provide more information to anyone in the future.

Best wishes

Tony Cunningham

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Tony Cunningham". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a prominent loop at the end of the last name.

**Professor Anthony L Cunningham AO, FAHMS, MD, FRACP, FRCPA, FASM**

Director, Centre for Virus Research, The Westmead Institute for Medical Research

Professor, Faculty of Medicine and Health, The University of Sydney

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