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I am writing in my capacity as the Ambulatory Director of Hepatology to express my full support for the proposed project to utilize ambient AI technology and speech analysis in order to detect covert hepatic encephalopathy (CHE) in patients with cirrhosis. This innovative endeavor aligns with our mission to deliver high-quality, patient-centered care while advancing our clinical capabilities through cutting-edge research and technology.

Hepatic encephalopathy, particularly in its covert form, is often underrecognized, leading to delayed interventions and poorer clinical outcomes. Early detection and timely treatment have the potential to dramatically improve patient experiences, reduce complications, and decrease hospital readmissions. By leveraging AI-driven voice analysis from clinical encounters, this project addresses a significant unmet need in ambulatory hepatology, providing an efficient, scalable, and cost-effective solution that integrates seamlessly into our clinic's workflow.

Our clinical unit and division are well-positioned to collaborate closely with the research team, ensuring that the necessary clinical data, patient populations, and workflows are made available for a robust and equitable study. Of note, the UCSF Liver Diseases and Liver Transplant clinics are currently hosting a pilot study of an AI -assisted chatbot for detection of CHE organized by Dr. Ge's research team.

I am confident that this initiative will lead to meaningful advancements in patient care and set a new standard for hepatic encephalopathy surveillance. As the Ambulatory Director of Hepatology, I offer my support and commitment to making this research a success.

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:
Bilal Hameed
3/31/2025

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