NIHR | HealthTech Research Centre
Emergency and acute care

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Dear Committee Members,

Letter of Support for Micromonsys' Application for NIHR i4i PDA Funding

On behalf of the NIHR HealthTech Research Centre (HRC) in Emergency and Acute Care, I am pleased to provide this letter of support for Micromonsys in their application for the NIHR i4i PDA funding. Over recent months, the HRC has been in discussions with Micromonsys, and we are committed to supporting their efforts to develop an innovative prototype device to detect mould spores in hospital environments.

This project aligns closely with our mission at the HRC to enhance patient safety and healthcare quality through innovative technology solutions. Mould spores in hospitals present significant health risks, particularly to immunocompromised patients, or in high risk environments such as theatres and intensive care units. A reliable, effective and automated device for this purpose could greatly improve indoor air quality monitoring, reduce resource requirements for manual monitoring, and reduce the likelihood of healthcare-associated infections, and ultimately contribute to better health outcomes for vulnerable patient populations.

The HRC has identified clinical experts with substantial experience in this field who will provide expert advice to Micromonsys on acceptable detection limits and prototype design. This collaboration will ensure the device is optimised for practical and safe use in clinical environments. Additionally, the HRC will facilitate the provision of relevant mould spore samples to support the development of Micromonsys' technology.

The HRC will actively support Micromonsys in gathering PPIE input to shape the device's design and functionality in ways that meet the needs of users.

Once Micromonsys develops the prototype, the HRC will conduct a small-scale feasibility study at one of the hospitals within Manchester Foundation Trust (MFT). The insights gathered from this study will be the basis of a future collaborative grant application to support further testing and development.

The HRC is committed to providing the necessary resources and expertise to support the successful development of this device.

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