Centre for Addiction and Mental Health
Centre de toxicomanie et de santé mentale

November 15, 2012

Dear ISCTM New Investigator Award Program Committee:

I am delighted to write this letter to support the application of Dr. Daniel M. Blumberger for the 2013 ISCTM New Investigator Award. I have known and worked with Dr. Blumberger since 2006 when he was still a psychiatry resident. I believe the ISCTM New Investigator Award Program will help Dr. Blumberger in his early career as an independent investigator through exposure to the breadth of opportunities available to clinical researchers and to senior clinical investigators and by being part of a peer group of new clinical investigators.

Based on my own involvement with Dr. Blumberger over the last 6 years and with many other young physicians, I am convinced that Dr. Blumberger will become a highly productive, independent clinical investigator. Dr. Blumberger received his MD degree (2003) and completed his residency in psychiatry at the University of Toronto (2008). In addition, he has completed training and received a certificate in Patient Safety and Quality from the University of Toronto Department of Medicine (2009). He also completed a competitive postdoctoral research fellowship funded by the Canadian Institutes of Health Research and received a M.Sc. from the University of Toronto Institute of Medical Science (2011).

Dr. Blumberger has already obtained competitive funding as a post-doctoral fellow and as a NARSAD Young Investigator (starting in July 2011). He has published 14 articles in peer-reviewed journals (7 as first author), including some high-impact journals such as *Biological Psychiatry*, *Brain Stimulation*, and *British Journal of Psychiatry*, with 2 additional manuscripts under review. Dr. Blumberger has presented several abstracts and given several oral presentations at local, national and international meetings and conferences. He has also been invited to be a reviewer for several leading journals. His scientific work has already been recognized by several awards including a Stepping Stone Award from the American Association for Geriatric Psychiatry, a Fellowship Award from the Canadian Academy of Geriatric Psychiatry, a Travel Award from the Canadian College of Neuropsychopharmacology and an NCDEU New Investigator Award.

I strongly believe that Dr. Blumberger would benefit from participating in the ISCTM New Investigator Award Program and that the program would benefit from his participation. I have no hesitation giving Dr. Blumberger the highest recommendation for this award.

Sincerely,

Benoit H. Mulsant, MD, MS, FRCPC
Professor and Vice-Chair, Department of Psychiatry, University of Toronto
Physician-in-Chief, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health