



# University of Pittsburgh

*School of Medicine*  
*Department of Medicine*

1218 Scaife Hall  
3550 Terrace Street  
Pittsburgh, PA 15261  
412-648-9636  
Fax: 412-648-2117

**Steven D. Shapiro, MD**  
*Jack D. Myers Professor and Chair*

July 13, 2007

Allen F. Gant  
CEO and Chairman of the Board  
BioMarck Pharmaceuticals  
2619 St. Mary's Street  
Raleigh, NC 27609

Dear Mr. Gant,

It is a pleasure to write on behalf of Ken Adler and BioMarck. As a colleague of Dr. Adler's and as someone involved in COPD research, I can say that Dr. Adler has an impeccable scientific reputation and is regarded as a leader in the field of lung biology research. His novel findings that inhibition of the MARCKS-related peptide blocked mucus secretion and improved lung function in a mouse model of mucus hypersecretion was published in *Nature Medicine*, our most prestigious publication of this sort. The clinical potential of this finding is huge, since there is very little that we do for COPD patients that controls mucus secretion or effects disease outcome. I am very pleased to see Dr. Adler and his able group focusing on a novel COPD therapy - the medical community greatly needs this.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "S. Shapiro".

Steven D. Shapiro, MD