



January 13<sup>th</sup>, 2012.

Professor Marco A. Zago  
Coordinator, Center for Cell Therapy,  
University of São Paulo  
Ribeirão Preto, SP 14049-900  
Brazil

Dear Professor Zago,

I am writing to confirm that Dr. Rodrigo Calado at the University of São Paulo at Ribeirão Preto Medical School is involved in a project relating to QIAGEN's development of new high-throughput methods to measure telomere length in human and animal samples. We first worked with Dr. Calado when he was at the NIH, Bethesda, Maryland. QIAGEN's Applications Lab in Germantown, MD, has developed a novel, fast, and semi-automated method to measure telomere length in hundreds of samples per day, as detailed in our webpage ([http://www.qiagen.com/literature/qiagennews/weeklyarticle/11\\_04/telomere/default.aspx](http://www.qiagen.com/literature/qiagennews/weeklyarticle/11_04/telomere/default.aspx)). These exciting results encouraged us to continue in pursuit of faster and more precise techniques to measure telomere lengths. We anticipate that the studies will directly result in one or more publications on methods as well as pave the way for future development in the field of telomere length measurement. These novel high-throughput methods have implications both in translational research of aging-related disorders, stem cell biology, cancer and in the clinical setting, for the diagnosis and follow-up of patients with telomere diseases. We are looking forward to working with Dr. Calado in this very exciting project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Victoria Blaine".

Victoria Blaine  
Vice President, Head Sales Clinical and MDx NA