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 **Subject:** Motivation for internship in research project: Mitral transvalvular pressure gradient vs. incidence of arrhythmias in patients with mitral valve dysfunction.

Surabaya, December 26th 2012

Dear madam Dobromila Drop MD,

I am a medical student attending Airlangga University, Indonesia. During my years of study, I have grasped the physiology and pathology studies of Cardiology, including valvular disorders of the heart and its hemodynamics effects, basic knowledge of physical examination in cardiology, basic knowledge of diagnostic techniques and results’ interpretation and experience in student trials. I’m very interested in this phenomenon because of its frequent occurrence in my surroundings and the fact that it could be-if not is-lethal. The potential harms caused by mitral valve dysfunction is the main reason is why I’m eager to deepen my knowledge about it.

Patients with mitral valve dysfunction are not seldom sightings in my local public hospital. In Indonesia, mitral stenosis and mitral regurgitation are mainly caused by rheumatic heart disease. In the earlier occurence symptoms are relatively disconcerned which makes patients with high graded dysfunction become easier to find in hospitals. Arrhythmias could be observed in patients with more advanced mitral dysfunction. In the other hands, mitral dysfunctions are related with mitral tranvalvular pressure gadient; for example, as the degrees of mitral stenosis worsens, a progressively higher gradient occurs. Mitral transvalvular flow depends on cardiac output and heart rate; an increase in heart rate decreases the duration of transvalvular filling during diastole and reduces forward cardiac output, causing symptoms such as thromboembolism which can cause arrhythmias. These continous connections are of course very interesting and important to learn deeper about.

For this reason, it would be a great honor for me to be able to participate in this research program for the improvement of my knowledge in the study of cardiology and valvular disorders. Fortunately, the International Federation of Medical Students’ Association (IFMSA) could facilitate a research exchange program. Therefore, I am considering taking the chance offered by IFMSA Poland to have an internship program on your research as a prime chance for me to learn more about the correlation between mitral transvalvular pressure gradient and incidence of arrhythmias in patients with mitral valve dysfunction.

I end this motivation letter with a thank you note and I hope to hear from you soon.

Yours sincerely,

Surabaya, December 26th 2012