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Peter C Quinn  
Executive Director  
T.J. Martell foundation

Dear Peter:

I am writing to you to communicate to you how much the support of the T.J. Martell foundation has meant to our basic science research into the mechanisms of prostate cancer growth and progression. The seed money provided from the Martell Foundation was a key element in our ability to assemble what we and many others believe is one of the finest prostate cancer research teams in the world. Our ability to fund pilot projects with these funds is critical to the success of new research ideas. The fruits of these collaborations have already resulted in high impact publications such as the one cited below in the *Journal of Clinical Investigation*. This mouse based research would not have been possible without seed money from the Martell Foundation and is already being translated in human clinical trials. The discovery of these pathways will likely lead to significant improvements in prostate cancer survival.

**Combination therapy targeting the Akt/mTOR and MEK/Erk Map kinase signaling pathways is potently anti-tumorigenic for hormone-refractory disease in a pre-clinical mouse model of prostate cancer**

Carolyn W. Kinkade, Mireia Castillo-Martin, Yvonne Sun, Carlos Cordon-Cardo, and Cory Abate-Shen  
Departments of Urology and Pathology, Columbia University, College of Physicians and Surgeons,  
Herbert Irving Comprehensive Cancer Center, New York, NY.

Dr. Cory Abate-Shen and Dr. Carlos Cordon-Cardo were recruited to Columbia within the last two years. Thank you for your support and enabling us to pursue our novel research.

Sincerely,

Mitchell C. Benson, M.D.