

Dear Dr. X,

We are considering Dr. Y for a postdoctoral position in my laboratory. She provided your name as a reference. I would be most grateful if you would be willing to answer the following questions with regard to Y and to provide any other information that you think may be helpful to us.

- 1) In what capacity have you worked with Y?
- 2) How long have you worked with her?
- 3) Does she work well independently? Can she generate hypotheses, plan experiments, and solve technical problems?
- 4) Is Y a hard-worker?
- 5) How does she interact with co-workers and collaborators?
- 6) Did she write first drafts of her manuscripts?
- 7) Can you list her major strengths and weaknesses?
- 8) Can you rank her among the last PhD students you have trained? Is she among the top 5%, 10%, 20%?

Many thanks for giving us your honest opinion of Y

Best regards,

ZZZ, M.D., M.Sc.

Assistant Professor of Medicine

Harvard Medical School

Ragon Institute of MGH, MIT and Harvard

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