



Přírodovědecká
fakulta
Faculty
of Science

Jihočeská univerzita
v Českých Budějovicích
University of South Bohemia
in České Budějovice

SUPERVISOR'S STATEMENT ON BACHELOR THESIS

Name of the student: Simon Starker
Study program: Biological chemistry
Department/Institute: Institute of Chemistry
Thesis title: Neurological manifestations of SARS-CoV-2 with special focus on anosmia

Supervisor: Mgr. Ján Lopatář, PhD
Supervisor`s affiliation:

	Point scale ¹	Points
(1) FORMAL REQUIREMENTS		
Formal and graphical quality of the thesis	0-3	2
Ability to work with literature	0-3	2
Language and stylistics	0-3	2
Formal requirements – points in total		6
(2) PRACTICAL REQUIREMENTS		
Fulfillment of the aims	0-3	2
Ability to understand the results, their interpretation, and clarity of the results, discussion, and conclusions	0-3	2
Discussion quality – interpretation of results and their discussion with the literature	0-3	2
Experimental difficulty of the thesis, independence in experimental work	N/A	N/A
Contribution of the thesis to the knowledge in the field and the possibility to publish the results (after eventual supplementary experiments)	0-3	1
Practical requirements – points in total	12	7
POINTS IN TOTAL (MAX/AWARDED)	21	13

¹ Mark as: 0-unsatisfactory, 1-satisfactory, 2-average, 3-excellent.

Comments of the supervisor on the student and the thesis:

This is Simon Starker's second attempt at thesis defense after a major revision. Mr Starker's thesis is in a much better shape now than the previous submitted thesis and I am glad he went through the process again. Though it may have hindered his plans, his work with literature, weighing the sources, assessing the various hypotheses and drawing logically sound conclusions are all now among his good scientific assets.

Mr. Starker filled in the logical and knowledge gaps where it was needed, and showed autonomous, logical thinking along the way. He made some sections that were previously difficult to read smoother, and made logical links between paragraphs to ease the reading of his thesis. He also added some sections needed for a fuller picture, e.g. treatment strategies, or some insights from animal models.

Having said that, several sections still lack the flow, with some sections clearly out of place or expanded to the point of losing the reader in the specifics that are not needed (e.g. olfactory transduction machinery and intracellular signaling). One other problem was finding the right literature, which is understandable given the current rate of publishing in this field. That said, Mr. Starker sifted through the literature and focused on quality literature, and found new literature with sound methodology, which he also assessed.

I would like to commend on Mr. Starker's ability to discuss the various scenarios and hypotheses with me towards the end; his scientific reasoning got better, Mr. Starker supported his claims with sources from literature and I enjoyed those moments. When the opponent's revision and questions arrived, he proactively prepared good answers. In this respect, this second attempt showed he understood the concept of literature research for the Bc thesis much clearer.

Mr. Starker's thesis highlights top pieces of literature on the topic of neurological symptoms of COVID-19, as well as on olfactory dysfunctions related to the disease, and adds his own conclusions, based on the current understanding in the field.

Conclusion:

In conclusion, I

r e c o m m e n d

the thesis for the defense.

In Bratislava date 25-01-2021

