

v Českých Budějovicích University of South Bohemia in České Budějovice

## Dear chairmen of the committee,

This is to let you know of the supervisor's evaluation of the student Bc. Hana Pechová, BSc. and about her master thesis entitled as "Analysis of trypsin inhibitor-like cysteine-rich domain-containing peptides (TIL-domain inhibitors) from the tick Ixodes ricinus".

Ms. Hana Pechová has proved to be a very enthusiastic, hardworking and intelligent student and young scientist who is able to work completely individually and with her own initiative. During the work on her master thesis, Hanka mastered a variety of important experimental techniques that will definitely be of importance in her future plans and career.

Her master thesis focused on production and characterization of a representative of TILdomain inhibitors form a tick I. ricinus. This work helps to shed some light on the rather neglected field of TIL-domain inhibitors in ticks and blood feeding parasites in general. Hanka presents a decent amount of work as a part of her thesis and some of her data could be used as a basis for a research paper. I was surprised by Hanka's English scientific writing skills, when she was clearly able to summarize available literature and her data in a thesis. I believe that if given few more weeks of time for writing, her presentation of results would also be of higher quality.

Hanka has my respect for how she was able to work on her thesis under difficult conditions as a mom of a small son, during Covid pandemics when the access to labs was sometimes limited, and with her supervisor being busy finishing PhD studies. On the other hand, these circumstances have taught her to work in a very independent and efficient way.

Hanka has proved to be a friendly and easy-going person, always ready to help and support other members of the group. She responded well in my comments and requirements during her research and writing of her master thesis. In conclusion, I am happy to strongly recommend her thesis defence and assuming her exams go well, awarding her with a MSc. title.

> Yours sincerely, Jan Kotál, PhD. In České 21