

EXHIBIT 55

March 8, 2018

Dear colleagues,

I am writing in response to Martin Shkreli's impending sentencing for the financial crimes he has committed. I do not condone predatory drug pricing behavior or financial crimes that undermine the integrity of any industry, especially biotechnology which is so critical to the success of modern medicine.

However, the world only knows Mr. Shkreli as a greedy egotistical showboat whose only interest appears to be self-promotion and endless media attention. The public knows about his request for Hillary Clinton's hair and his unusual record purchases. But, there is another side to him that the public may not be aware of. In my professional interactions with Mr. Shkreli, I have known him to be a brilliant and innovative thinker. He has been able to come up with novel approaches to treat serious clinical conditions and implement clinical research programs to test these treatments. He has been successful even though he has no formal medical training. The DUET trial, which evaluated a unique drug in patients with Focal Segmental Glomerulosclerosis (FSGS), a rare but serious kidney disease, would not have been conceived or conducted without his insight and initiative. If the favorable results in the Phase 2 DUET study are confirmed in a larger Phase 3 randomized clinical trial, then patients with FSGS will benefit from Mr. Shkreli's special wisdom and ability to see things in a different light. He has shown the same capacity to target novel approaches to other rare neurological diseases.

Mr. Shkreli has demonstrated a lack of appreciation of the rules that govern the work he does. He is brash and confrontational. But he is very young and can change. Mr. Shkreli needs a "moral handler", a mentor who can guide him and monitor his activities. This would ensure that his creative talents are channeled thoughtfully and applied unequivocally within the bounds of the law.

As his sentencing hearing nears completion, I suggest that a lengthy sentence that deprives him of the ability to work would be a terrible price for a society to pay for his misconduct. Moreover, I would suggest that his outrageous behavior is beside the point in the context of his trial. I would hope that with time and maturity Mr. Shkreli would realize that more people will be helped by the creative force of his brain than by any of his antic activities.

I would advise drafting a creative sentencing solution in which Mr. Shkreli is allowed work under very close scientific supervision. The courts would oversee his financial activity and limit or even forbid any personal gain for a period of time as a means of making recompense of his prior work. In fact, it might be appropriate to recommend that all profits that accrue from discoveries or medical advances made based on Mr. Shkreli's work should be donated to medical research and the search for cures for rare diseases. I think that this arrangement would enable patients with diseases like FSGS to continue to benefit from his unique talents while creating an environment in which Mr. Shkreli can achieve a comparable moral status.

Sincerely yours,



Howard Trachtman MD