ESCRS Pioneer Research Award 2021-2022

Expression-of-Interest

PRA Research Call was announced Friday, April 30th, 2021

The 2021/2022 ESCRs Pioneer Award is an initiative sponsored by the ESCRs to support and encourage independent clinical research in the field of cataract and refractive surgery.

The competition is open to ophthalmologists (up to the age of 40) with a current ESCRs membership and who have been a member for at least the last three consecutive years. Applicants must hold a full time clinical/research post at an EU-based clinical or academic centre.

The purpose of the Award is:

• to support, encourage and fund individuals interested to start clinical research activities in the field of cataract and refractive surgery;
• to introduce and develop a body of clinical research work, addressing a challenging “problem” in order to devise a practical “solution”;
• to facilitate and support an independent culture of study for the ultimate benefit of patients.

The Pioneer Award aims to fund any type of new initiatives, which may include:

• a systematic review or meta-analyses to prepare for a new clinical trial;
• a novel research idea for development of clinical trial studies;
• a non-interventional or observational study;
• a natural history / epidemiological study;
• a comprehensive series of retrospective case-control studies;

a patient or disease registry. The amount for funding that may be awarded to a successful applicant is between €5,000 and €50,000 (maximum), and for a project with a duration no longer than 2 years.
Guidance for completing the application form

Your submission in section 2 must **not exceed 550 words** and must include the following sections here (excluding the word count headings and/or excluding academic references):

1. **Title** [25 words]

2. **Introduction** [130 words]

3. **Formal statement of research & statistical hypothesis** [80 words]

4. **Outline of research proposal** [120 words]

5. **Summary of clinical and economic impact of the research** [85 words]

6. **Summary of regulatory research** [*40 words*]

7. **Summary of required budget and duration of study** [70 words]

*The study should identify which type of human study to be used (non-interventional study, low intervention clinical trial, observational study, other), whether it uses a medicinal product, medical device or diagnostic device. If known, please provide the details, for example, Regulation (EU) No. 536/2014*¹ or Regulation (EU) 2017/745 on Medical Devices (MDR)², or other (give explanation).

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Terms & Conditions

(a) I hold a full-time or affiliated post based at any clinical or research institute (referenced by the "WHO definition of region groupings at the website).

(b) I have demonstrable prior experience in the conduct of clinical research in the field of ophthalmology.

(c) I am familiar and experienced with the administrative, insurance and regulatory requirements for the conduct of EU-based clinical research studies.

(d) I understand that Expressions-of-Interest will be evaluated by the ESCRs Research Committee (including other independent peer reviewers) who will generate a short-list of applicants to be invited to make a full comprehensive research proposal. I understand that all decisions on Expressions-of-Interest and/or short-listed proposals made by the ESCRs shall be final and no correspondence will be entered into on any matters arising from the Pioneer Research Awards.

(e) I confirm that I am the original author of the application with a current ESCRs membership and who have been a member for at least the last three consecutive years, holding a full-time clinical/research post at an EU-based clinical or academic centre and my ESCRs membership number is included on my Expression-of-Interest submission.

If any of the required information is omitted from the Expression-of-Interest, the entry will not be evaluated further.

Any queries prior to submission of a Pioneer Research Award Expression-of-Interest application should be directed to escrs@mci-group.com