

Astellas/SAKK Translational Urogenital Cancer Meeting Award

The future of oncology is fueled by efforts of outstanding researchers and their research teams. Innovative preclinical and clinical research projects will continuously improve our knowledge in oncology and address emerging challenges.

Research is a continuous professional and personal commitment, therefore, SAKK's and Astellas' intent is to motivate and honor young researchers on this important journey.

To support preclinical and clinical oncology research in Switzerland, SAKK and Astellas team up to confer for the first time an Astellas/SAKK Translational Urogenital Cancer Meeting Award. A researcher will be awarded as representative of a research group or project for the most innovative/promising translational research project.

The focus of the Astellas/SAKK Translational Urogenital Cancer Meeting Award lies on potential tangible improvements for patient management and outcomes in the treatment of genitourinary cancers.

The Award is endowed with CHF 20'000.00 and should encourage the continuation of research activities. Hence the awarded sum is to be used for ongoing and future research within the respective research group or project.

Call for Applications

Prior to your application, please carefully read the applicable Award Rules. In case of questions, please do not hesitate to contact the coordinating person at the SAKK Coordinating Center (SAKK CC).

Please send your application until Sunday, January 31, 2021.

Full applications must be sent via e-mail to bettina.althaus@sakk.ch and shall include:

- Curriculum Vitae of the candidate
- Letter of support, which shall emphasize and highlight the scientific and/or clinical achievement of the candidate relevant to the Astellas/SAKK Translational Urogenital Cancer Meeting Prize
- Publication list of the candidate relevant to this award
- If applicable, any other relevant information or documentation

Selection Process

An independent jury of experts will evaluate the submitted applications.

For more details please view the applicable Award Rules.

Award Announcement

The winner of the Astellas/SAKK Translational Urogenital Cancer Meeting Prize will be announced and awarded during the next SAKK Translational Urogenital Cancer Network Meeting, taking place at the Uto Kulm Hotel in Uetliberg on March 11 & 12, 2021.

Award Rules

Astellas Pharma AG distributes the Astellas/SAKK Translational Urogenital Cancer Meeting Award with the support of the Swiss Group of Clinical Cancer Research (SAKK) and the support of an independent jury at the SAKK Translational Urogenital Cancer Network Meeting, taking place on March 11 & 12, 2021. The award will be conferred to an eligible candidate, who may be a physician or scientist, active in genitourinary oncology research within Switzerland. The winner will be awarded as representative of a research group or project for the most innovative/promising translational research project of the Astellas/SAKK Translational Urogenital Cancer Meeting Prize.

Eligible Candidates

1. An eligible candidate must fulfill the following criteria:
 - a) Researcher – this may be a physician or scientist – currently active in preclinical or clinical urogenital cancer research in Switzerland. The minimum requirement is a research activity in Switzerland from January 1st to December 31st, 2020

Valid Applications

2. Candidates can nominate themselves
3. The candidate must submit the complete candidature and documentation to the coordinating person at the SAKK until January 31, 2021:
 - a) Recent Curriculum Vitae of the candidate (<45 years)
 - b) Letter of support written, dated and signed. The letter of support shall emphasize and highlight the scientific and/or clinical achievements of the candidate and the respective research group or project relevant to the for the most innovative/promising translational research project
 - c) Publication list relevant to the Astellas/SAKK Translational Urogenital Cancer Network Meeting Award
 - d) Any other information if applicable
4. The application must be submitted in English
5. Resubmission of applications that did not win in past editions are permitted as long as eligibility criteria are met
6. Applications must be sent via e-mail to the responsible person of the Swiss Group of Clinical Cancer Research (SAKK), Ms. Bettina Althaus (bettina.althaus@sakk.ch)

Evaluation of Applications

7. An independent jury composed of 2-3 Swiss experts. Employees of Astellas must not be part of the jury
8. Jury members must not evaluate applications of their own institution or university
9. Project proposals will be evaluated only if they are deemed to be eligible and feasible
10. The independent jury will evaluate the submitted valid applications on a scale from 1-10 (1 = worst, 10 = best) for each of the following criteria:

- a) Alignment with scope of award, i.e. potential tangible improvements for patient management and outcomes in the treatment of genitourinary tumors
 - b) Scientific quality
 - c) National (future) scientific and/or clinical impact of research achievements
 - d) International (future) scientific and/or clinical impact of research achievements
 - e) Innovative potential and novelty
11. The jury head shall identify the top scoring application, based on calculated mean values for each application
 12. The jury elects the winner based on the evaluation scoring. In case different applicants achieve the same scoring, the top scoring applications shall be discussed amongst the jury members. The jury shall elect 1 winner by consensus. In case consensus cannot be reached, the chairmen have the final decision
 13. The jury is free and independent in its decisions. Its decisions are final and not subject to appeal
 14. If additional scientific expertise is needed the SAKK president can request written evaluations from additional reviewers
 15. The SAKK and Astellas Pharma AG may waive the award of the Astellas/SAKK Translational Urogenital Cancer Network Meeting Award if the jury considers none of the submitted applications worthy of support

Awarding

The award will be announced and presented during the SAKK Translational Urogenital Cancer Network Meeting, March 11 & 12, 2021.

16. Three weeks at most after the ceremony SAKK will transfer the prize money to the winning research group or project
17. The prize money must be used for ongoing and future research. Future evidence should be given at the next year's SAKK Translational Urogenital Cancer Network Meeting with a brief presentation on how the used money has supported further research steps

Role of Astellas Pharma AG

18. Astellas Pharma AG is the sole sponsor of the Astellas/SAKK Translational Urogenital Cancer Network Meeting Award
19. Astellas Pharma AG informs about the Astellas/SAKK Translational Urogenital Cancer Network Meeting Award on its own website (astellas.ch/news), describing the award, the candidature process and the selection of the winner
20. Astellas Pharma AG must not be part of the award jury and thus must not evaluate applications
21. Together with the support of the SAKK an employee of Astellas Pharma AG will announce the winner together with the jury head and hand over the award during the SAKK Translational Urogenital Cancer Network Meeting, taking place at the Uto Kulm Hotel in Uetliberg on March 12, 2021.