

European Foundation for the Study of Diabetes

EFSD

**The Research Foundation of the
European Association for the Study of Diabetes**

Report - 2004

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European Foundation for the Study of Diabetes

EFSD

The Research Foundation of the
European Association for the Study of Diabetes

In 1999 the European Association for the Study of Diabetes (EASD) created its own Foundation: the European Foundation for the Study of Diabetes (EFSD), in order to support more actively diabetes research in Europe and to serve even more effectively the goals of EASD, which are: to encourage and support research in the field of diabetes, to rapidly diffuse acquired knowledge and to facilitate its application.

EFSD is a non-profit foundation, which seeks to support the highest quality research in Europe to find a cure for all types of diabetes and associated complications and to prevent their onset. EFSD aims to co-operate with other government and non-government agencies in order to increase funding in European diabetes research as a means of achieving its goals. Through its various activities and programmes, the Foundation also strives to enhance awareness in Europe of the severity and magnitude of this devastating disease. It is the ambition of the Executive Committee to develop EFSD as the main European funding agency for diabetes research.

The Foundation is closely related to EASD; it is governed exclusively by the Executive Committee of EASD, which itself is under the close supervision of the EASD Council and General Assembly. The Foundation operates on a strictly non-profit basis under the control of the relevant authorities in Germany.

Partnerships bring €22 Million to European diabetes research

In order to foster diabetes research at the highest level in Europe, EFSD has entered into innovative partnerships with other foundations and with industry. Through such partnerships, to date EFSD has committed over **€22 million** to diabetes research in Europe.

Further information on EFSD Award Programmes is available on the web site of the Foundation: www.EuropeanDiabetesFoundation.org. An RFA (request for applications) for each programme is printed in *Diabetologia* (the official journal of EASD), and announced in the monthly e-mail sent to EASD members.

All applications are subject to rigorous peer review by a fully independent panel of leading experts in the field, and awards are based on scientific merit. Applications from non-profit organisations are welcome from Europe or any associated country.

European Foundation for the Study of Diabetes

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GRANTS

2004

EFSD and Johnson & Johnson

European Research Programme in Type 2 Diabetes

Background

Founded in 1886 in New Brunswick, New Jersey, Johnson & Johnson is the world's most comprehensive and broadly based manufacturer of health care products, as well as a provider of related services, for the consumer, pharmaceutical and medical devices and diagnostic markets. Johnson & Johnson is committed to developing important new therapies that will address the needs of patients with diabetes.

Plan

In 2002 EFSD and Johnson & Johnson established a European programme in type 2 diabetes to encourage quality new projects aimed at advancing current knowledge in this domain.

Funding Instruments

Research grants in the total amount of **€1 million** were made available for the 3 year period 2002 – 2004.

Awards in 2004

In 2004, a total of 52 grant applications were submitted for review. Based on the rank order of scientific merit attributed by the Review Committee, the Programme Board made the following awards in the amount of €100,000 each:

Torben Hansen:	Steno Diabetes Center – Gentofte, Denmark
Stephan Herzig:	German Cancer Research Centre - Heidelberg, Germany
Allan Vaag:	Steno Diabetes Center – Gentofte, Denmark

EFSD and Servier

European Research Programme on Vascular Complications of Type 2 Diabetes

Background

Servier is a research-based pharmaceutical company with an established reputation in diabetes research, therapeutics and education. Present in 135 countries worldwide, the company is proud to maintain a number of tight long-term collaborations with key diabetes organisations.

Plan

EFSD and Servier have established a European programme on vascular complications of type 2 diabetes to encourage quality new projects aimed at advancing current knowledge in this domain. Applications are particularly welcome for projects that aim to clarify the molecular mechanisms of vascular complications in type 2 diabetes. These grants are intended to stimulate and accelerate European research into the vascular complications of type 2 diabetes.

Funding Instruments

Initially, **€1.1 million** was made available for the 3 year period 2002 – 2004. In 2004 the EFSD/Servier Programme was extended, with an additional **€1 million** made available for the period 2005 – 2007.

Awards in 2004

In 2004, a total of 29 grant applications were submitted for review. Based on the rank order of scientific merit attributed by the Review Committee, the Programme Board made the following awards of up to €100,000 each:

Matthias Meier:	Hannover Medical School – Hannover, Germany
Giuseppe Pugliese:	Rome University - Rome, Italy
Csaba Szabo:	Semmelweis University – Budapest, Hungary
Carsten Tschöpe:	Charité University – Berlin, Germany

EFSD and Eli Lilly and Company

European Diabetes Research Programme

Background

Eli Lilly and Company is a world leader in insulin production and also manufactures and markets a variety of other pharmaceutical products. The headquarters of Eli Lilly and Company is in Indianapolis, Indiana, USA.

Plan

The EFSD/Eli Lilly European Diabetes Research Programme is established within the frame of the **€2 million** EFSD/Eli Lilly Fund. The goals of the Fund are: to promote increased European research in diabetes, support training and mobility programmes in diabetes research for young clinicians and scientists, and increase awareness of the burden of diabetes and its complications throughout Europe.

Funding Instruments

The EFSD/Lilly Diabetes Research Programme will make available a total of **€1 million** for the three year period 2003 - 2005. These funds are awarded as annual grants, each in an amount of up to €100,000.

Awards in 2004

In 2004 a total of 72 grant applications were submitted for review. Based on the rank order of scientific merit attributed by the Review Committee, the Programme Board made the following awards of up to €100,000 each:

Giovanni Camussi:	Turin University – Turin, Italy
Jorge Ferrer:	Institute for Biomedical Research – Barcelona, Spain
Concepción Mora Giral:	Institute for Biomedical Research –Barcelona, Spain
Giorgio Sesti:	Magna Graecia di Catanzaro University – Cantanzaro, Italy
Nils Welsh:	Uppsala University – Uppsala, Sweden

EFSD and Novo Nordisk A/S

Programme in Diabetes Research

Background

Novo Nordisk A/S is a world leader in insulin and diabetes care and also manufactures and markets a variety of other pharmaceutical products. Headquartered in Denmark, Novo Nordisk has companies and information offices in more than 60 countries.

Plan

The EFSD/Novo Nordisk Programme in Diabetes Research will accept applications within any area of basic or clinical diabetes research. Those focusing on psycho-social aspects of diabetes management and on prevention will also be most welcome. All applications will be considered on an equal basis and judged on their intrinsic scientific merit.

Funding Instruments

€1 million has been made available over 3 years for research in the framework of the Programme, which is carried out in Europe and its associated countries. Awards will be offered between 2004 and 2006 in the form of research grants of up to €100,000 each.

Awards in 2004

In 2004 a total of 118 grant applications were submitted for review. Based on the rank order of scientific merit attributed by the Review Committee, the Programme Board made the following awards of €100,000 each:

Peter Arner:	Karolinska Institute – Stockholm, Sweden
Decio Eizirik:	Université Libre – Brussels, Belgium
Heikki Hyöty:	Tampere University – Tampere, Finland
Pierre Maechler:	Geneva University – Geneva, Switzerland
Marcelina Párrizas:	Institute for Biomedical Research – Barcelona, Spain
Michele Solimena:	Dresden University – Dresden, Germany
Antonio Vidal-Puig:	Addenbroke's Hospital – Cambridge, United Kingdom

EFSD
and
Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation (JDRF)
and
Novo Nordisk A/S

Programme in Type 1 Diabetes in Europe

Background

The mission of the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation International (JDRF) is to find a cure for diabetes and its complications through the support of research. JDRF was founded in 1970 by parents of children with diabetes who were convinced that the disease could be cured. JDRF gives more money to diabetes research than any other non-profit, non-governmental health agency in the world.

Novo Nordisk A/S is a world leader in insulin and diabetes care and also manufactures and markets a variety of other pharmaceutical products. Novo Nordisk has companies and information offices in more than 60 countries.

Plan

The partners have established the EFSD/JDRF/Novo Nordisk Programme in Type 1 Diabetes Research to foster multi-disciplinary research targeted at finding a cure for type 1 diabetes and its complications. The specific goals of the Programme are: to promote the highest quality of basic and clinical biomedical research in Europe and its associated countries applicable to type 1 diabetes, to expedite the practical application of scientific advances in our understanding of the aetiology, pathogenesis, treatment and prevention of type 1 diabetes and its complications, to encourage clinical translational research bridging the bench and the bedside, and to increase awareness about type 1 diabetes research throughout Europe.

Funding Instruments

€2.25 million has been made available, from 2004 to 2007, for focused research grants in Europe and its associated countries. Up to eight grants, each of up to €100,000, will be distributed each year.

Awards in 2004

In 2004, a total of 49 grant applications were submitted for review. Based on the rank order of scientific merit attributed by the Review Committee, the Programme Board made the following awards of up to €100,000 each:

Christian Boitard:	Hospital Saint-Vincent-de-Paul – Paris, France
Luc Bouwens:	Université Libre – Brussels, Belgium
Lucienne Chatenoud:	Necker Institute (IRNEM) – Paris, France
Martine Darville:	Université Libre – Brussels, Belgium
Décio Eizirik:	Université Libre – Brussels, Belgium
Agnès Lehuen:	Hospital Saint-Vincent-de-Paul – Paris, France
Helle Markholst:	Hagedorn Research Institute – Gentofte, Denmark

EFSD and Pfizer

Resource Awards

Background

Pfizer is one of the world's leading healthcare companies, providing human and animal pharmaceuticals, as well as consumer products. With a portfolio that includes five of the world's 20 top-selling medicines, Pfizer is helping to improve the lives of people the world over.

Plan

The aim of a Resource Award is to allow for development of a resource for diabetes research, which will be available on an open-access basis or at nominal cost to all researchers in the field in Europe. Examples might be products for research (e.g. gene microarrays), biological material (e.g. cell lines), a database or co-ordination and integration of samples/data from ongoing multi-centre endeavours (e.g. genetic screening).

Funding Instruments

A total of **€400,000** has been made available for 2004 and 2005, in order to fund annual awards in each of these years in a total sum of up to **€200,000**.

Awards in 2004

In 2004, a total of 20 Letters of Intent were received, and those considered the most competitive were then submitted as full applications. Based on the rank order of scientific merit attributed by the Review Committee, the Programme Board made the following awards:

Knut Borch-Johnsen:	Steno Diabetes Center – Gentofte, Denmark
Stefanie Eising:	Steno Diabetes Center – Gentofte, Denmark

European Foundation for the Study of Diabetes

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**NEW
PARTNERSHIP
PROGRAMMES**

in 2005

EFSD and LifeScan

European Studies on Glucose Monitoring

Plan

EFSD and LifeScan have established a new Partnership for European Studies on Glucose Monitoring **in the total amount of €1.4 million**. The EFSD/LifeScan Awards are intended to stimulate and accelerate European research aimed at improved understanding of the optimal use of glucose monitoring tools, both in type 1 and type 2 diabetes, with particular focus on the following: the impact of glucose monitoring on diabetes outcomes, the optimal/appropriate frequency of testing in different target populations (and the value of preprandial versus postprandial testing), new technologies in glucose monitoring and their clinical interest in diabetes practice, the impact of glucose monitoring on health economics, the physiology of alternative site testing and its impact on the use of glucose monitoring systems, informatics systems in support of glucose monitoring tools, glucose monitoring in children, and standardisation of HbA_{1c} measurement.

Funding Instruments

A total of **€1 million** has been made available for the purpose of offering research grants of up to €100,000 each over a period of five years from 2005 to 2009. In addition, **€100,000** will be made available to support for studies on standardisation of HbA_{1c} measurement.

2005 Deadline

The deadline for applications for research grants in 2005 will be 25 April, with an anticipated award date of August 2005.

EFSD and Merck Sharp & Dohme (MSD)

European Study Programme on Beta Cell Function and Survival

Background

Merck & Co, Inc is a global research-driven pharmaceutical company. Merck discovers, develops, manufactures and markets a broad range of innovative products to improve human and animal health, directly and through its joint ventures. Merck Sharp & Dohme, or MSD, is the name Merck uses for conducting its business in all other countries outside the United States and Canada.

Plan

EFSD and MSD have established a new European Programme on Beta Cell Function and Survival **in the total amount of 1.4 million**. The programme awards are intended to stimulate and accelerate European research into all aspects of beta cell function and survival, with particular emphasis on the following: increasing beta cell mass/function, mechanisms of glucose-stimulated insulin secretion, mechanisms of beta cell dysfunction, including beta cell gluco- and lipotoxicity, non-invasive imaging of beta cells, and beta cell intermediary metabolism.

Funding Instruments

A total of **€1.4 million** will be made available for the two year period 2005 – 2006 in the form of research grants of up to €100,000 each.

2005 Deadline

The deadline for applications in 2005 will be 15 April, with an anticipated award date of August 2005.

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FELLOWSHIPS

EFSD/Eli Lilly Research Fellowships

Research Fellowship in Diabetes and Metabolism

The objective of this EFSD/Eli Lilly Research Fellowship is to encourage research in the field of diabetes and metabolism and to promote excellence in medical education.

Research Fellowship in Diabetes Microvascular Disease

The EFSD/Eli Lilly Research Fellowship for diabetes microvascular disease relates specifically to the field of diabetes microvascular complications, with particular emphasis on diabetic retinal disease.

One Fellowship of €50,000 will be awarded annually in each category out of the EFSD/Eli Lilly Fund. Application may be made by any paid-up member of EASD under the age of 40 years on the 1 January in the year of the Fellowship Award and with demonstrated ability in the field of diabetes research.

In 2004 the awardees were as follows:

EFSD/Eli Lilly Research Fellowship in Diabetes and Metabolism

Bernadette Neve: Institute Pasteur de Lille – Lille, France

EFSD/Eli Lilly Research Fellowship in Microvascular Disease

Martin Dumskyj: Royal Free Hospital – London, United Kingdom

EFSD/MSD

Travel Fellowships for Young Scientists

The EFSD/MSD Travel Fellowships were conceived to enable young scientists to visit another laboratory for a duration of not more than three months, in order to learn new scientific techniques.

Fellowships were in the amount of up to €6,000 each.

EFSD/MSD Travel Fellowships came to an end in 2004.

The 2004 EFSD/MSD Travel Fellowship Award recipients were:

Davina Burt:	Tübingen University – Germany (travelled to Turin University - Turin, Italy)
Elizabeth Frank:	Bio-Chem Foundation – Mysore, India (travelled to Epidemiology Course - Utrecht, The Netherlands)
Stephan Kersting:	Dresden University – Germany (travelled to Diabetes Research Institute - Miami, USA)
Lucy Marzban:	Research Institute – British Columbia, Canada (travelled to Geneva University - Geneva, Switzerland)
Péter Reismann:	Semmelweis University – Budapest, Hungary (travelled to Heidelberg University – Heidelberg, Germany)
Robyn Tapp:	Monash University – Victoria, Australia (travelled to Imperial College – London, United Kingdom)
Agnieszka Trzcínska:	Poznań University – Poznań, Poland (travelled to Yale University – Connecticut, USA)
Tara Wallace:	Churchill Hospital – Oxford, United Kingdom (travelled to University of Washington - Seattle, USA)

NEW

EFSD/Albert Renold Fellowships



Professor Albert Ernst Renold (1923-1988) was the founding Secretary of the European Association for the Study of Diabetes (EASD) from 1965-1970 and later served as President of EASD from 1974-1977. He was also President of the International Diabetes Federation from 1979-1982. He played a major role in advancing diabetes research both in Europe and throughout the world.

To commemorate the considerable debt owed to Albert Renold for his inspirational leadership, and to help the most promising young investigators acquire new skills in diabetes research by visiting another laboratory, EFSD has established a new programme, which offers annually up to 12 Albert Renold Fellowships.

The EFSD Albert Renold Fellowships, each amounting to up to €6,000, will enable young scientists to travel to and stay at other laboratories in order to learn new techniques in basic or clinical diabetes research. The duration of the stay should not exceed three months.

Applications may be made by any paid-up member of EASD under the age of 35 years (PhD) or 40 years (MD/PhD with clinical training) on 1 January in the year of the award.

EFSD/Albert Renold Fellowships are available throughout the year, and a decision is usually made within a few weeks of applying.

EFSD Review Committee Members

EFSD is most grateful to the following colleagues who served in 2004 on the various review committees of the partnership programmes:

Stefanie Amiel	(UK)	John Nolan	(IRL)
Christian Berne	(S)	Timo Otonkoski	(FIN)
Polly Bingley	(UK)	Paolo Pozzili	(I)
Marc Donath	(CH)	Giuseppe Pugliese	(I)
Richard Furlanetto	(USA)	Michael Roden	(A)
Ramon Gomis de Barbara	(E)	Bart Roep	(NL)
Hans-Peter Hammes	(D)	Frans Schuit	(B)
Mikael Knip	(FIN)	Olli Simmell	(FIN)
Hubert Kolb	(D)	Ulf Smith	(S)
Rüdiger Landgraf	(D)	John Todd	(UK)
Åke Lernmark	(S)	Giancarlo Viberti	(UK)
David Matthews	(UK)	Thomas Wascher	(A)
Mark McCarthy	(UK)	Giancarlo Viberti	(UK)
Monica Montagnani	(I)	Thomas Wascher	(A)
Jens Høiriis Nielsen	(DK)	Juleen Zierath	(S)

EFSD EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE and ADMINISTRATION

Executive Committee:

President:	Prof E. Ferrannini - Italy
Vice President:	Prof E. Standl - Germany
Vice President:	Prof H. Wallberg-Henriksson - Sweden
Honorary Secretary:	Prof D.L. Eizirik - Belgium
Honorary Treasurer:	Prof J. Škrha - Czech Republic
Editor in Chief - <i>Diabetologia</i>:	Prof E. Gale – United Kingdom
Chairman PGESC:	Prof B. Feldt-Rasmussen - Denmark

Chairman, Advisory Board:	Prof P.A. Halban – Switzerland
Senior Advisor :	Prof J. Nerup – Denmark

Executive Director:	Dr V. Jörgens - Germany
EFSD Secretariat:	Ms S. Burgess - Germany

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EFSD is registered as a non-profit Foundation in Düsseldorf, Germany under registration number: 15.2.1-St.767
and at the Inland Revenue in Düsseldorf, Germany under tax number: 106/5744/1547

The EFSD Accounts for the fiscal year 2003 were submitted to the German Inland Revenue. Following detailed evaluation, a Certificate was issued endorsing the status of EFSD as a charity. This Certificate is held on file at the EFSD office and a copy will be made available upon request.