Research Funding Available for Preeclampsia and Related Pregnancy Disorders

Preeclampsia Foundation makes announcement at 2016 SMFM Pregnancy Meeting

Atlanta, GA – February 3, 2016 – The Preeclampsia Foundation announced today at the Society for Maternal-Fetal Medicine’s (SMFM) 36th Annual Meeting – The Pregnancy Meeting™ – that applications are now being accepted for its 2016 Vision Grant program. Up to two medical research Vision Grants will be awarded to study preeclampsia and related hypertensive disorders of pregnancy, up to $20,000 each.

Vision Grants are intended to provide initial funding for novel, innovative research by promising young investigators that will advance progress towards detection, prevention, or treatment of preeclampsia, HELLP syndrome and other hypertensive disorders of pregnancy. Post-doctoral, Clinical Fellows or Early Stage Investigators only are eligible to apply. Projects with potential to alter clinical management and improve patient outcomes will receive priority but any well-considered research proposal will be accepted for review. International applications are welcomed; however, submissions must be in English.

The application deadline is May 13, 2016, with award notification on August 19, 2016. This year an added emphasis will be placed on projects that address research gaps identified by The American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG) in its 2013 Hypertension in Pregnancy guidelines. Instructions to apply can be found at www.preeclampsia.org/research, along with the ACOG reference material.

Since its inception, the Preeclampsia Foundation’s Vision Grant annual program has invested more than $550,000 in novel research – ranging from molecular biology and immunology, to potential therapies, with the goal of supporting new, potentially ground-breaking concepts. These results have, in turn, generated additional funding from the National Institutes of Health, earned scientific presentations at major conferences, and inspired young investigators to challenge a medical conundrum that has baffled the medical community for more than 2,400 years.

“We look forward to receiving diverse, quality applications again this year,” said Dr. Thomas Easterling, director of the Preeclampsia Foundation’s Medical Advisory Board. “We’re especially interested in projects that focus on research gaps summarized by ACOG. There has been significant progress toward understanding preeclampsia during the past two decades, but there’s much more research that needs to be done. We’re pleased to be able to fuel this work through our Vision Grants for young investigators.”
About the Vision Grant Award program: According to the World Health Organization, preeclampsia is one of the least funded areas of research, especially when considered against Disability Adjusted Life Years (DALYs). The Preeclampsia Foundation’s Vision Grants fund medical research pertaining to the pathophysiology, diagnosis, and treatment of hypertensive disorders of pregnancy.

About the Preeclampsia Foundation: The Preeclampsia Foundation is a U.S.-based 501(c)(3) non-profit organization established in 2000. It is dedicated to providing patient support and education, raising public awareness, catalyzing research and improving health care practices, envisioning a world where preeclampsia and related hypertensive disorders of pregnancy no longer threaten the lives of mothers and babies. For more information, visit www.preeclampsia.org.

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