

Diabetes Wellness Suomi Research Strategy 2024

Poliisihallituksen 23.09.2020 myöntämä rahankeräyslupa RA/2020/1121 Suomessa Ahvenanmaata lukuun ottamatta 10.10.2020 alkaen. Y-TUNNUS 2471852-7

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PURPOSE

The aim of Diabetes Wellness Suomi Säätiö (DWSS) Research Strategy is to clearly set out the foundations objectives and priorities for research funding.

The strategy will demonstrate a knowledge and understanding of the role the foundation plays in consideration of the needs and requirements of its members and the wider community. It will provide a clear focus for stakeholders, illustrating the foundations commitment to its aims and plans for achieving its goals. In turn, this will build a clear picture and understanding of the role of research within the foundations wider objectives.

The provision of a clear research strategy will allow researchers to determine whether their research falls within the foundations funding remit. Furthermore, it will enable DWSS's Research Advisory Board to make recommendations for funding in-line with the aims and objectives of the foundation, whilst assisting the Trustees to assess the effectiveness and impact of the foundations activities.

The Research Strategy will be reviewed on an annual basis. This could be for a number of reasons, not least when the need to rethink mechanisms of funding, arise. Likewise, as the needs of the charity's members and the wider community change, the charity's research funding programmes will adapt and evolve in consideration of those requirements.

MISSION

DWSS has been founded in order to increase the public awareness of the existence, causes and treatment of diabetes and thus similar and related diseases. The foundation also aims to support research related to diabetes.

ROLE OF THE CHARITY

DWSS's aim, through its research strategy, is to fund clinical and non-clinical research projects related to both type 1 and type 2 diabetes with focus on the

- prevention, complications and treatment of diabetes
- causes
- cure

Each year our goal becomes more important as the number of people diagnosed continues to rise. Today more than 500 million people worldwide are living with diabetes according to the World Health Organization (WHO) and by 2030, this total is expected to increase to around 600 million people worldwide.

Research with a strong relevance to diabetes and patient benefit is paramount. This reflects the views and wishes of our network members and donors, with whom we have a close connection, and reinforces DWSS's charitable objectives.

Our ultimate goal is to discover a cure for diabetes. We know that this is a long road but are intent on maximising the potential by funding the highest quality clinical and scientific research at the very best research institutions and supporting innovative projects.

Through fundraising, donations and legacies and in line with the charity's mission of relieving the suffering of people with diabetes, each year DWSS offers financial support for a selected number of projects connected with diabetes research.

As a charity with a close relationship with our network members, in addition to the responsibility we have to our donors, DWSS are committed to investing in research projects with tangibly beneficial/ practical outcomes.





RESEARCH FUNDING PROGRAMME

The Diabetes Wellness Suomi Säätiö research programme is designed to support projects offering hope of improving and enhancing the lives of those living and coping with diabetes on a daily basis. Our aim is to support bright young researchers, as well as established institutions, as they strive to make the kind of life-changing break-through our members and supporters are hoping for.

The current research programme for Finland consists of one kind of funding – the Project Grant. The grant model aims to set focus to fully fund exceptional research projects within the Project Grant programme.

The Project Grants are given for research projects related to causes, cures or complications of type 1 and 2 Diabetes. The aim is to fully fund research projects over a period of up to two years. This is to make the funding, made by the foundation, meaningful for the institutions and the applicants. The intention of a Project Grant funding should be to make it possible to manage a research project without the need for additional funding from other sources. This is to avoid dilution or overfunding of a project.

The programme accept requests for funding of both non-clinical and clinical research related to type 1 and 2 diabetes research.

It is important that funded projects do not fund the applicant's salary; it should only be used for hiring staff, equipment, consumables and some minor overhead expenses to cover indirect costs like, laboratory space, electricity and such.

Diabetes Wellness Suomi Säätiö Structure

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

A Board of Trustees governs "Diabetes Wellness Suomi Säätiö" – the trustees' role is to guide, advise and support the Executive Director as he and his team implement the vision of the charity.

It is imperative that the DWSS's research portfolio facilitates first class research into the cause, care and advances in the treatment of diabetes. With the guidance and recommendation of our Research Advisory Board, the charity Trustees make funding decisions with these priorities in mind.

RESEARCH ADVISORY BOARD

The DWSS Research Advisory Board comprises experts in a wide variety of research disciplines to ensure that all applications are assessed knowledgeably and fairly.

The Research Advisory Board (RAB) oversees our Project Grant and currently meet once or twice a year.

We endeavour to minimise as far as possible the workload generated by these applications but, as a charity, we consider it vital that we operate a rigorous assessment procedure and we are greatly indebted to our board members for their commitment to our work. We do not pay an honorarium, but all expenses are reimbursed.







EVIDENCE OF TRANSPARENCY

Website - <u>www.diabeteswellness.fi</u>:

- Details of the members of the Research Advisory Board
- Board of Trustees
- Funded research (lay summaries, researchers and institutions) '

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Kunnes parannuskeino löydetään

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