**EULAR Research Funding**

**Research Service Voucher**

**Description**

The Research Service Voucher provides rapid funding of up to EUR 5,000 in expenses for purchasing core services, technology/equipment, and other resources in support of rheumatic and musculoskeletal (RMD) research projects. The goal is to give investigators with limited research funds the support they need to nurture a small idea with big potential that could lead to larger subsequent funding or aid in completing a funded and impactful RMD project. Researchers can either:

* Add new data collection to an existing (“parent”) RMD project to develop new research that is distinct from the aims of the parent project.
* Collect information de novo, outside the context of an existing project, to support the development of new RMD research.

**Open date (earliest submission date):** January 3, 2025

**Letter of intent due date:** Not applicable

**Application due dates:** March 31, 2025

 June 30, 2025

 September 30, 2025

December 31, 2025

Examples of allowable costs may include but are not limited to:

* Fees for research support services, e.g., biobanking-associated costs
* Fees for measurement/analysis/testing service performed by outside labs core facilities (contract research), e.g., biomarker testing, omics technologies, bioinformatics, biostatistics
* Collection of data through e.g., questionnaires, mobile technology, social media

Examples of uses that are not allowed include:

* Non-research patient care
* Travel
* Tuition, membership fees
* Durable goods, materials, and supplies
* Payment for items already in the budget of a funded research project
* Payment for services that have already been provided to the investigator

**Eligibility**

* Researchers and Health Professionals from all EULAR-affiliated countries.
* Although the primary metric for evaluation will be the quality of the proposal, in the event of over-subscription and otherwise equitable adjudication of merit, weighting will be given to those applications coming from regions in which rheumatology research has received lower levels of research support on a historical basis, or that has been under-represented in abstract submission rates to the EULAR Congress.
* Investigators are eligible to receive one voucher award per year. Only one application per research group per cycle will be accepted.

**Budget and financial requirements**

* The budget may not exceed EUR 5,000 per project (with only listings of direct costs).
* If awarded a voucher, all funds will need to be spent within 12 months of account establishment.
* Cost sharing and attempts to raise funds from other sources are encouraged.

**Application requirements**

* Applicants must justify their needs for a research voucher and indicate how the coverage of costs will contribute to their research outcomes.
* Awardees will be required to present proof-of-payment as outlined in the budget and complete the follow-up impact survey.

**Review and decision process** (pilot phase during 1st year):

* Applications will be reviewed quarterly.
* The anticipated number of vouchers is contingent upon EULAR appropriations and the submission of a sufficient number of meritorious applications.

**Acknowledgment of EULAR Research Support**

All publications and projects resulting from the utilization of any EULAR Research resources, funding, and support services are required to credit EULAR.

**Credit EULAR funding/voucher support**

Grant/ voucher citation language: "This work was supported by a grant/ voucher (#ADD HERE) from the European Alliance of Associations for Rheumatology (EULAR). The content is solely the responsibility of the authors and does not necessarily represent the official views of EULAR.”

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