



*The Intensive Connection*



## **Call for Proposals**

Epimed Solutions – ESICM Award on Quality improvement and patient safety

### **I. Goal:**

Epimed Solutions and ESICM announce a call for proposals for the Epimed Solutions – ESICM Quality improvement and patient safety Award, which is part of the ESICM Industry Research Awards programme aimed at promoting excellence in Research activities related to Intensive Care Medicine in Europe. The purpose of this award is to support the development of investigators in the area of intensive care medicine. The Industry Research Awards provide financial support to intensivists/investigators, who are members of ESICM, in order to develop an independent research project. These Awards provide investigators with peer recognition and great exposure. The Proposals for the Epimed Solutions – ESICM quality improvement and patient safety Award in 2018 must focus on at least one of the herewith 4 topics:

- 1) Quality improvement projects,
- 2) Use of quality indicators,
- 3) Predictive models for outcomes assessment or
- 4) Use of big data in patient safety for ICU patients.

### **II. Proposals:**

It should be clearly defined in a protocol. Submitted studies can be prospective or retrospective but not part of an ongoing or already complete yet unpublished study. If the proposed study is supported or sponsored by any other healthcare company, this should be stated clearly in the proposal, however, this information will have no influence on the selection of the best proposal for the Award.

### **III. Eligibility -**

Only 2018 ESICM members are invited to submit an application. If you are a member in 2017, please renew your membership before applying. If you are not yet a member, please proceed with your membership application before submitting your project. - Eligible applicants are physicians or scientists supported by the head of department or institution at the time of the application and for the duration of the development of the study. - Research projects must be conducted in Europe. - There is no application form: submission is done online through the ESICM research web page

<https://www.esicm.org/research/awards-2/> .

### **IV. Selection –**

Members of the Research Committee and reviewers of the highest international standing in their respective fields will carry out this task. - The review process will involve appreciation of the significance and the originality of the research project, the proposed approach, the investigators' profile and the research environment in which the project will be conducted. A quantitative evaluation grid will be used to help members of the Selection Committees in the decision process. - To guarantee a fair selection process and to avoid any potential conflicts of interest, applications involving a member (or the institution) of the Award Scientific Committee will be discussed in the absence of this member. - Assessments are strictly confidential and cannot be divulged outside ESICM, or to the candidates themselves. - No distinction will be made between candidates on the basis of gender, ethnic origin, religious or political beliefs. - The decisions are final and appeals will not be considered.

### **V. Announcement of Winners**

The Awards will be presented during the ESICM Annual Congress (Lives2018). The Award winner will be notified in advance of the meeting and will be asked to be present.

## **VI. Award**

The award will be EUR 15,000 over a year. Funds will be available as of December 2018 (academic year) and granted in one payment at the beginning of the Award period. The deliverables include the submission of a research abstract to the Annual Congress of ESICM. In addition, the Award requires an end-of-project report in English summarising results and justifying how the award money was spent. This must be sent to ESICM within 3 months of the end of the project. The report will be forwarded to Epimed Solutions and published on the ESICM Website.

## **VI. Allowable Costs**

Allowable costs include salary support, equipment and supplies. Costs for secretarial services and administrative services (indirect costs) are not allowed. All costs must be directly related to the proposed research.

## **VII. Legal Aspects**

Neither ESICM nor Epimed Solutions will cover any tax issue that may arise either in the home or host country and any applicable taxes must come out of the initial Award. ESICM is a nongovernmental international organisation whose awards are not automatically endowed with any particular tax privileges. It is the sole responsibility of the recipient of an award to pay any tax which may be levied upon him/her by the appropriate national authority. In addition, ESICM or Epimed solutions does not insure awardees against medical expenses for themselves or their families; neither are they insured for accidents during their travel to and from the host institution. Neither ESICM nor Epimed solutions recognise recipients of its awards as agents or employees of ESICM and accepts no liability in respect of any of their actions or activities or in respect to the health or safety of their persons. In their own interest, recipients of the awards are, therefore, urged to make sure that both their families and the institutions which receive them are fully covered by all necessary insurances.