ESVC

European Society of Veterinary Cardiology

CARDIOLOGY CLINICAL STUDY FUND

One of the objectives of the ESVC is "to encourage and promote improved methods of diagnosis, treatment and prevention of heart disease in animals". In keeping with this goal, the ESVC has created a Clinical Study Fund.

The goal of this fund is to support clinical research aimed at improving the diagnosis, treatment and prevention of cardiovascular diseases in animals.

Program description

- If ethical approval was not provided at the time of submission, it must be provided shortly after the grant has been awarded.
- A panel of recognized experts in veterinary cardiology appointed by the board will review all proposals according to a list of objective criteria.
- Final decision will be made by the ESVC board.
- Funding will be granted based on the scientific merit of the proposal and the availability of funding, after ranking the proposal accordingly.
- The fund will support a maximum of two research projects per year
- Duration of the project should be one year. If it is not possible to complete the project in one year, an application can be made for an extension for a second year. With this application, a progress report must be submitted at the end of the first year.
- Maximum funding: funding will be provided up to 20,000 Euro
- Deadline for application: ***April 15th, 2027***
- Funding decision: Applicants will be informed of the decision ***before or during the AGM at the ECVIM congress unless the review process has been delayed, and no later than the 31st of October 2027.***

Eligibility

- The principal investigator must be a member of the ESVC
- Each ESVC member can submit only one application per year as principal investigator

Instructions for applications

- Applications should not be more than 2,000 words excluding references, budget, CV of principal investigator and qualification of co-investigators

- Applications should provide the following (please use the provided template):
    - Statement of ethical approval either approved (provide decision letter) or pending
    - Abstract
    - Background and significance
    - Hypothesis and aims
    - Materials and methods
    - Timeline
    - Possible benefit(s) of the study to the veterinary cardiology community
    - Detailed budget (a form is downloadable)
    - Publication aims in the future
    - References should be limited to 15
- Applications should be submitted electronically to the secretary of ESVC
- One page CV for principal investigator

Reporting

- Progress report must be submitted at the end of the first year and at the two years if an extension has been approved.
- Final report must be submitted 1 year after the last progress report was submitted.
- The ESVC retains the right to ask that the funding be returned if it is not used in 2 years or if an adequate progress report is not submitted in a timely manner as required.
- We kindly ask that, whenever successful applicants present their research or summarize their data, in publications or presentations, they acknowledge the ESVC for providing funding.

Format

a. Format specifications

While a template is provided with this Call for Proposal for reference and convenience, correct formatting and usage is the responsibility of the principal investigator.

- Proposal should be typed in Arial font 11 point single space, numbering consecutive pages from the Cover Page (page 1).
- Sections of the proposal should appear in the following order:
    - Cover Page
    - Abstract (not more than 300 words)
    - Specific Aims (1/2 page limit)
    - Background and significance (1 page limit)
    - Experimental design and methods (2 pages)
    - Anticipated outcomes (1/2 page limit)
    - References (up to 15, 1 page limit)
    - Budget details (including a sub-section entitled justification, 1/2 page limit)

- Curricula vitae of the principal investigator (1 page limit)
- Contribution and summary of qualification for co-investigators

Review criteria

- Late submissions and those failing to comply with the requirements of this call will not be considered for award.
- Proposals will be blindly reviewed by an external ESVC Grant Scientific Committee appointed by the board.
- Proposals will be ranked by the committee on a scale of 10 (outstanding) to 1 (not acceptable). Proposals scoring 6 or higher will be considered for funding.
- Funding will be allocated based on the order of rankings. In case of a tie, the ESVC Board will make the final decision.
- The primary review criteria are as follows:
  - The scientific quality of the proposed project
  - Feasibility of the study; aim of the study should be achievable within the timeframe given
  - Demonstration of clinical relevance
  - Relevance of work to animal health and well being
- Costs covered: the grant will only cover actual costs incurred that otherwise would not be covered by the regular work in the clinic. This will not include compensation for time spent on the project, nor standard tests such as blood work covered by the client or other funding.