

Research funding policies of the Swiss Society of Pharmacovigilance in Psychiatry (SSPVP/SGAMSP)

Article 1. Objectives

The SSPVP Research Fund supports research projects and publications related to drug safety in psychiatry. In accordance with Article 2.2. of the SSPVP bylaws, one of its objectives is the funding of research projects. In addition (Article 2.3.), the SSPVP promotes a close cooperation with national and international medical associations, drug manufacturers, representatives of related medical disciplines, and groups who are interested in drug safety and therefore in improvement of psychiatric services, as well as the well-being of patients. SSPVP collaborates in this field closely with the AMSP e.V. in Germany.

Article 2. Financing of the SSPVP Research Fund

On proposal of the Committee, the General Assembly determines annually the amount available for the SSPVP Research Fund. The research fund is entitled to gain additional financial resources from sponsors, and from donations and bequests. The SSPVP Research Fund is managed by the SSPVP Treasurer, a separate account is set up for the research fund.

Article 3. Project support

Research projects and publications related to drug safety in psychiatry and to the AMSP Project are supported. The fees are intended to cover the costs directly related to the project. Projects with commercial objectives are excluded.

Article 4. Decision-making Committee

Applications are reviewed by a panel composed of representatives of voting members and members of the SSPVP Committee. The decision is made by the SSPVP Committee by a simple majority. External experts may be consulted during the project evaluation.

Article 5. Applicant

The main applicant or a co-applicant of the proposal must be a SSPVP member.

Article 6. Application procedures

Requests for support of a research project should be submitted once a year before February 1. Notification of the decision is usually available before end of June. The request must contain details of research hypotheses and objectives, research methodology and research plan as well as information on the research-related training and experience of all applicants. Moreover, a time schedule and a detailed budget for the entire project as well as information on requests submitted to any other institutions should also be indicated. The request should be submitted using the "SSPVP: Application Form for Funding of a Research Project".

Publication of data collected within the AMPS Project are encouraged and supported. Requests for this purpose can be submitted at any time. The data to be published (in form of graphs and tables, as well as a summary of the intended product), the authors' names and information about the targeted publications should be specified. The requested funds must be justified, such as reimbursement for statistical analyses, salaries of employees or costs for translation. It should be demonstrated that there is a high probability that the work will be published in the target publication (journal, book, etc). Requests for financial support of a publication should be submitted using the "SSPVP Application Form for Funding of a Publication within the SGAMSP Project". A decision will be available within three months.

Article 7. Obligations of the Applicant

Applicants are expected to:

- (a) comply with the legal regulations and with appropriate ethical guidelines;
- (b) inform the SSPVP at least annually about the progress of the research project using the "SSPVP Research Fund: Intermediary/Final Report Form"; changes in the project plan should be communicated without delay;
- (c) provide the SSPVP with a copy of each publication resulted from the research project;
- (d) acknowledge the financial support of the SSPVP in all publications and presentations of the project or of its results;
- (e) inform the SSPVP about any additional requests or approvals of financial support.

Article 8. Duration and dissolution

The duration of the SGAMSP Research Fund is not limited. If its existence cannot longer be justified, the Fund may be closed by decision of the SSPVP Committee and the General Assembly. Any remaining funds will remain within the SSPVP.

Article 9. Enactment

The rules were enacted by the decision of the General Assembly of November 2, 2006. This is an amended version of the original rules. It was adapted by the General Assembly of September 27, 2012. It replaces all previous versions.