

Sanofi Announces a second wave of 14 Innovative Research Projects funding through its European Academic Awards Program

- The Sanofi innovation Awards program in Europe is helping to establish new early stage research approaches that can quickly translate innovative academic research into clinical testing, with the potential to have a significant impact on patients
- A three-year program to invest a total of up to 6 million euros in funding innovative research projects across academic centers in Europe and Israel
- For this second year, this initiative launched in 2018 in France and Germany has been extended to United Kingdom and Israel
- Fifteen academic projects selected by an Academic and Sanofi Joint Steering Committee, among 240 dossiers submitted

Paris, Frankfurt, Guildford, October 16, 2019 - Sanofi announces today that it has recognized 14 innovative research projects as part of the Sanofi Innovation Awards Europe program (Sanofi iAwards Europe). This program brings together multiple academic research institutions as partners at the earliest stages of drug discovery and expertise sharing, to prepare for possible multi-year research collaboration for the most promising projects.

Initiated in 2018 with leading research institutions in France and Germany. The program was extended in 2019 to new partners in France and Germany as well as in new countries with the United Kingdom and Israel.

The Sanofi iAwards program seeks to promote potential scientific breakthroughs, especially through the exchange of knowledge between Sanofi and top academic scientific teams. It will fund and nurture selected academic projects for one year, with the potential to lead to further collaborations. The aim is to accelerate the research and development process and address patients' needs more quickly. These efforts combine new learnings from academic institutions on the biological mechanisms of diseases, and Sanofi's drug discovery and development capabilities.

Today in Paris, will be held a Scientific Symposium, with participating academic centers, recognized project leaders and Sanofi Research & Development (R&D) teams. This event is the opportunity to gather all the contributors of the iAwards Europe program from 18 best in class research centers in Europe and Israel and Sanofi teams. This symposium represents the chance to discover the scientific milestones achieved with the 2018 iAwards projects after one year and launch the new collaborations starting in 2019 within the second wave of iAwards Europe program.

“With advances in our understanding of biology and the rapid introduction of new technologies, we have an unparalleled opportunity to make a difference for patients”, says Jacques Volckmann Head of R&D France. “But to maximize the opportunities, the scientific and medical community whether in pharmaceutical industry or academics, must work more closely, and in new and different ways. In Europe, where almost 50% of our R&D organisation is based, the Sanofi’s goal is to create a more seamless and rapid flow of ideas from the basic research and discovery that takes places in academic labs to the work done internally into new therapeutic approaches. It also gives our leading academic partners the opportunity to advance their critical projects”.

“This second edition of this unique industry-academic partnership is a great success.” said Jochen Maas, Head of R&D Germany “18 leading academic institutes in Europe and Israel were invited to submit proposals. For two days, academic and Sanofi R&D teams will be gathered around the scientific milestones achieved with the 2018 iAwards projects and new projects selected in 2019. This event is a unique occasion to exchange with our partners on areas of interest and new approaches to find new therapeutic pathways that could be translated in solutions for patients.”

A joint steering committee composed of scientific representatives from Sanofi and participating academic centers gathered to review the most promising proposals from all participating institutions in this program. In 2019, selected projects include innovative projects focused on new diseases targets or biomarkers, new mechanisms of action or therapeutic modalities in seven different therapeutic areas: Molecular/Immuno-Oncology, Immunology & Inflammation, Diabetes, Neuroscience, Rare Diseases, Rare Blood Disorders and Vaccines.

The 2019 awarded projects and project leaders are:

Molecular/Immuno-Oncology (4 projects):

- Digestive cancers – Dr. Alain Couvineau (Inserm, Paris)
- Immunomodulation – Dr. Thierry Walzer (Inserm, Lyon)
- Immunomodulation – Dr. Julien Marie (Inserm, Lyon)
- Metastatic Uveal Melanoma – Dr. Sergio Roman-Roman (Institut Curie)

Immunology & Inflammation (3 projects):

- Lupus Nephritis - Dr. Vassili Soumelis (Inserm, Paris)
- Spondyloarthritis – Dr Lars Rogge (Institut Pasteur)
- Atopic Dermatitis – Dr Carsten Flohr (KCL¹)

Diabetes (1 project):

- Insulin resistance - Dr Christian Herder (DDZ² – DZD)

Neuroscience (1 project):

- Lewy body dementias – Dr Dag Aarsland (KCL¹)

Rare Diseases (2 projects) :

- Parkinson’s Disease - Dr. Ulrike Eggert (KCL¹)
- Hereditary Podocytopathies – Dr. Géraldine Mollet (Institut Imagine)

Rare Blood Disorders (2 projects) :

- Sickle Cell Disease - Dr. Adam Butterworth (University of Cambridge)
- Sickle Cell Disease – Dr. Annarita Miccio (Institut Imagine)

Vaccines (1 project) :

- Immunosenescence - Dr. Mario Falchi (KCL¹)

¹ – King's College London (KCL)

² - Deutsches Diabetes Zentrum (DDZ)/ Deutsche Zentrum für Diabetesforschung e.V. (DZD)

About Sanofi

Sanofi is dedicated to supporting people through their health challenges. We are a global biopharmaceutical company focused on human health. We prevent illness with vaccines, provide innovative treatments to fight pain and ease suffering. We stand by the few who suffer from rare diseases and the millions with long-term chronic conditions.

With more than 100,000 people in 100 countries, Sanofi is transforming scientific innovation into healthcare solutions around the globe.

Sanofi, Empowering Life

Medias Relations Sanofi France

Chrystel Baude
Tél: +33 (0)1 53 77 46 46
mr@sanofi.com

R&D Communications Sanofi Germany

Monika Erdmann
Tél.: +49 (69) 305 84237
presse@sanofi.com

Communications Sanofi UK

To be completed