



# 11<sup>th</sup> INTERNATIONAL MEDIS AWARDS FOR MEDICAL REASEARCH

Honoring the Best Medical Achievements  
in Central and South-Eastern Europe

## TERMS & CONDITIONS FOR PARTICIPATION

### 1 ABOUT THE INTERNATIONAL MEDIS AWARDS

International Medis Awards for Medical Research (hereinafter referred to as the IMA) is an international prize awarded by the independent International Scientific Committee for outstanding research achievements in eleven countries in Central and South-Eastern Europe across nine medical fields. It is awarded annually.

The contest recognizes innovative doctors and pharmacists who conduct research alongside their regular clinical work. The aim of the Awards is to showcase these doctors and pharmacists to the public, increase awareness of their work and encourage them and others to continue their research efforts. Through their work, they contribute significant innovations to the fields of medicine and pharmacy, thereby enhancing disease management. The Award was established in 2014 on the initiative of Medis, d.o.o., a company based in Ljubljana, Slovenia, which remains the main sponsor.

### 2 CRITERIA FOR PARTICIPATION

#### 2.1 Applicant Qualifications

For **medical doctors**: the applicant must be actively working in clinical practice with patients (diagnosis and treatment decisions) in institutions throughout the IMA contest territory in the medical fields in which they are applying for the IMA.

For **pharmacists**: for the field of pharmacy, only pharmacists are eligible to apply (excluding pharmacists who are not employed in healthcare organizations e.g. hospitals, community healthcare centers etc.). Pharmacists who are working in clinical practice with patients – including clinical pharmacists, community pharmacists – in institutions throughout the IMA contest territory will be rewarded with extra points as written in the [scoreboard](#).

## 2.2 Contest Territory

The IMA contest is open to the applicants from eleven countries of the Central and South-Eastern Europe:

- Austria
- Bosnia and Herzegovina
- Bulgaria
- Czechia
- Croatia
- Hungary
- Montenegro
- North Macedonia
- Serbia
- Slovakia
- Slovenia

At least one institution where the applicant was employed during the time the study was conducted must be located in the territory of the IMA contest. In the submitted article, we refer to the affiliations or institutions associated with the applicant's name. The majority of the research (including participants in clinical studies, statistical analysis) must be done in the territory of the IMA contest.

## 2.3 Field of Research Work

Applicants who are actively involved in their primary clinical practice in the below-stated fields can apply with their research work in their respective field (e.g. a person who works in daily clinical practice as a pediatricist may apply in the field of pediatrics):

- Dermatology
- Gynecology
- Intensive Care Medicine and Anesthesiology
- Neurology
- Ophthalmology
- Pediatrics
- Pharmacy
- Pulmonology and Allergology
- Rheumatology

Surgeons may apply to any field of research work.

## 2.4 Research Work and Study Type

Research work must be published in a scientific publication with an impact factor (IF) of at least 1.500. The IF of a scientific publication will be obtained from the Journal Citation Reports (JCR) database. Applicants may apply with the study types of medical research as shown in Table 1.

Finalists from each specialty will be selected only from research papers for that specialty. For example, a lower impact factor of scientific publications from ophthalmology compared to publications from other specialties will not affect the placement within the specialty of ophthalmology.

Preference is given to the investigator-initiated studies. Industry-sponsored studies and studies which are sponsored/financed by industry-sponsored foundations/organizations are excluded from the contest.

Each individual research paper may be submitted to the contest only once.

Table 1: Eligible study types for the IMA contest

Medical research				
Primary research				Secondary research
Clinical research		Epidemiological research		Meta – analysis
Experimental	Observational	Experimental	Observational	
Clinical study	Therapy study	Intervention study	Cohort study	
	Prognostic study		Case control study	
	Diagnostic study		Cross-sectional study	
	Observational study with drugs			
	Secondary data analysis			
	Case series			

## 2.5 Publication Period

The research work must be published between 1 October 2023 and 31 October 2024 (13 months).

## 3 ENTRY GUIDELINES

Please read the IMA Terms and Conditions for participation carefully before submitting your application. All applicants must submit their entry online via the [IMA website](#). The entire process is simple, as you follow the process step-by-step.

You will need the following to complete the entry:

- Published article in PDF format;
- If you are the Other/Leading/Corresponding/Last (senior) author, it is mandatory to attach the signed consent of the First author, written in English. It can be in the form of an email where the sender is clearly displayed, or in a form of consent letter; draft is available [here](#).

After you have successfully submitted your application, you will receive a confirmation email in a few days. This means that your application has been successfully submitted, but eligibility will be determined during the first round of application review in accordance with the IMA Terms and Conditions for participation.

Eligible applications will proceed to the second round and applicants will become IMA Nominees, meaning you will receive a Certificate of Nomination for the 11<sup>th</sup> International Medis Awards Contest.

If you have any questions or need help, feel free to contact us at [info@medis-awards.com](mailto:info@medis-awards.com).

The submission deadline is 31 October 2024. After that date the applications will be treated as late and will not be considered.

## 4 EVALUATION PROCESS

### 4.1. International Scientific Committee

An independent international scientific committee of ten established and recognized doctors and pharmacists from seven countries will review the applications with submitted research works. Each committee member is selected based on their extensive expertise and experience in their respective area of work.

### 4.2. Criteria for Evaluation

The independent IMA scientific committee will evaluate each application as follows: In the first round, the applicant's submitted work must meet the IMA Terms & Conditions for participation.

Eligible applications will proceed to the second round, where the applications will be evaluated according to the panel scoreboard, which can be viewed [here](#). The finalists from each field will be chosen only among the research works from that field.

## 5 AWARD

Applicants whose application meets all the requirements of the IMA Terms & Conditions for participation will become IMA Nominees and will thus receive a Certificate of Nomination for the International Medis Awards Contest.

**Finalists** will be announced from each field of research and will receive an International Medis Award that includes:

- International Medis Awards certificate of recognition;
- A financial grant of EUR 500 gross for further research work.

One **winner** will be selected from each field of research and will receive an International Medis Award that includes:

- The bronze sculpture named Bodočnost (The Future), made by the renowned sculptor Jakov Brdar;
- A financial grant of EUR 2,500 gross for further research work.

## 6 ANNOUNCEMENT OF FINALISTS AND THE AWARDS CEREMONY

Finalists will be announced on 16 January 2025.

Winners will be announced on 13 March 2025.

Finalists and winners are eligible to receive the awards only if they participate in the International Medis Awards Ceremony.

## **7 TIMELINE**

Entries opening: 25 June 2024

Entries closing: 31 October 2024

Finalists' announcement: 16 January 2025

Winners' announcement: 13 March 2025

## **8 GENERAL SPONSOR**

The general sponsor of the project is Medis, d.o.o.

## GENERAL TERMS & CONDITIONS ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- I hereby confirm that I am the First or Leading author of the research work. If I am the Other/Leading/Corresponding/Last (senior) author, I hereby confirm that the First co-author of the research work consents to my application for the IMA.
- I work in daily clinical practice in institutions within the territory of the IMA contest in the field in which I am applying for the IMA contest.
- I confirm that at least one institution where I was employed during the time the study was conducted is located in the territory of the IMA contest.
- I confirm that my permanent residence is in one of the countries of the territory of the IMA contest.
- I hereby certify that the above statements are true and correct to the best of my knowledge. I understand that a false statement may cause the withdrawal from the IMA.
- By submitting an entry, I agree with all Terms and Conditions of the IMA contest and I understand the contest's rules.

## OBLIGATIONS OF FINALISTS – STATEMENT

I, the undersigned applicant, declare that I fully understand the contest rules and the Terms and Conditions and will fully respect them.

If I am announced as the finalist in a category, I declare and agree without any further confirmation:

- To collaborate with the IMA team and to be available for photographs and interviews if requested;
- That for the purposes of the IMA contest, my name, title and institution are in uniform format in English, which I will confirm before publication and will be used throughout the duration of the IMA;
- To any announcements in publications where the IMA chooses to publish information connected to the contest or the IMA Ceremony;
- That video materials created for or by or on behalf of the IMA can be used in print and/or in digital form as the IMA materials or to promote the IMA or other events in the future;
- That I will attend the IMA ceremony as required by the IMA;
- That if announced as the winner in a category, I agree to receive the IMA sculpture and the financial award to which I am entitled at the IMA Ceremony;
- That if announced as the finalist in a category, I agree to receive the financial award to which I am entitled at the IMA Ceremony;
- That whenever I discuss my work with which I have competed at the IMA, with the aim that this discussion is published or broadcast, I will always quote the International Medis Awards in its full name, and require from the authors of the articles, videos or similar to do the same;
- That if I win and receive an International Medis Award, I agree to pay any taxes or potential costs connected to receiving the award in the country of residence.

Failure to do as agreed upon may cause the withdrawal from the IMA.