ESNCH is dedicated to supporting young researchers in the realisation of their research projects. International collaborations are strategic instruments to strengthen research quality and relevance, to obtain results more attractive to leading research communities, to attract international research funds and to involve medical imaging industries as well.

We encourage the submission of research proposal by young researchers. Members ≤ 40 years old should submit a structured application (available on our website) on a planned or on-going research study. Collaboration between different institutions and between countries is encouraged.

Submitted proposals will be reviewed by Executive Committee of the ESNCH. The best 3 proposals will be selected and presented as oral presentations during the ESNCH annual meeting.

Research project Grant will be peer reviewed by a panel of experts and awarded on a competitive basis. The grants are intended for well-designed research projects, which can be completed within 12–18 months. A final report with the results of the project should be presented in 24 months, at the annual meeting. ESNCH support should be mentioned in the publication of the study results.

Obligatory submission criteria

1) The principal investigators from each institution in the project should be active members of ESNCH (participating at the ESNCH annual meetings and paying membership fee for at least last 2 years)
2) Neurosonology as the topic and the method
3) Multicentre and international collaborative research with a minimum of 3 European countries involved

Project evaluation

All grant proposals will be evaluated based upon the following criteria:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1) Number of participating centres and countries</td>
<td>0-5</td>
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<tr>
<td>2) Clarity of the research hypothesis and rationale</td>
<td>0-5</td>
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<tr>
<td>3) Clarity of the research methodology and patient selection criteria</td>
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<td>4) Feasibility of the research approach (including recruitment of subjects, project timeline, preliminary data where appropriate, etc.).</td>
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<td>5) Originality of the proposed research</td>
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<td>6) Confirmed sponsors</td>
<td>0-5</td>
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<tr>
<td>7) Contribution and importance to the knowledge of neurosonology and/or cerebral hemodynamics</td>
<td>0-5</td>
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</tbody>
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Structured application

1. Brief Study Description (max 500 characters, space included)
2. Detailed Description (max 6000 characters, space included)
   a. Rationale (background information)
   b. Aims, hypothesis
   c. Study design (randomized, observational, proof of concept, etc.)
   d. Primary and secondary outcome
   e. Trial Population
      i. Number and type of subjects to be studied
      ii. Age range of subjects
   f. Eligibility criteria
   g. Ultrasound system
   h. Methodology
   i. Impact or expected outcomes
   j. Innovation
   k. References
3. Possible sponsors (name, amount)
4. Proposed budget (support staff, equipment, and other items)
5. Centres involved:
   a. Principal Investigator
   b. Participating sites (institutions, investigators, ultrasound systems)
   c. Contribution and justification of the research team