

# EDMUS Foundation, 4<sup>th</sup> Call for research proposals

**Deadline September 27<sup>th</sup>, 2019**

The EDMUS Foundation, in partnership with the ARSEP Foundation, launches its annual call for research proposals.

It aims at fostering research with relevance to multiple sclerosis and related disorders, provided the studies are using data collected or to be collected by the *Observatoire Français de la Sclérose en Plaques (OFSEP)*.

**The data collected include clinical and MRI data and biological samples.**

The clinical data include the description of the patients, their diseases and their therapeutic care (socio-demographic characteristics, neurological episodes, disability, treatment, serious adverse events, etc.). Data from more than 65 000 patients are available.

MRIs prescribed as part of the care protocol are carried out according to standardized acquisition protocols, defined by the OFSEP imaging group. Nominative data is deleted from the MRIs before transfer and storage on the Shanoir platform (Sharing NeuroImagingResources). MRI from more than 2 500 patients are available.

The biological samples includes blood (serum, EDTA plasma, DNA, PBMC (Peripheral Blood Mononuclear Cells)), urine, cerebrospinal fluid (CSF, CSF cells), and stools) . Data concerning these samples are entered into a single centralized TK<sup>®</sup> database (biological sample management software), constituting a virtual BRC. Biological samples from more than 3 000 patients are available.

The prospective studies can include one or several types of data (clinical/ MRI/biological samples) to be collected within the OFSEP network.

## **Regulations about research grants:**

- A principal investigator (PI) can only submit one project.
- Research projects taking place outside of France can be funded by EDMUS Foundation provided they are integrated into a multicenter project including at least one French OFSEP team with a major role in the project.
- The provisional amount allocated to the call is 200 000 €
- **The maximum requested budget per project is 100 000 €**

- Funding will be granted for one or two years, renewable after resubmission.
- Funding is for laboratory expenses, equipment, access to a technology platform, salaries, and acquisition of new data to enrich the database. In case of required biological samples, please contact OFSEP National Coordination Center (NCC) at [contact@ofsep.org](mailto:contact@ofsep.org) for budget evaluation.

NB1: The data management, required before provision of the data, is free of charge only for the members of the OFSEP network. Data management related costs must be incorporated in the budget for the non- OFSEP member project leaders. Please contact OFSEP National Coordination Center for more information and budget evaluation.

NB2: Statistical analyses and project management can be done by the OFSEP National Coordination Center upon request. Related costs have to be incorporated in the budget. Please contact OFSEP NCC for more information and budget evaluation.

### **Evaluation of the proposals**

- Proposals will be evaluated by the ARSEP medico-scientific committee.
- The OFSEP National Coordination Center will provide the ARSEP Foundation with an evaluation of the feasibility of the projects regards to the data required for the projects.
- Participation in a project must be signed by all collaborators involved in the proposed research.
- The EDMUS Foundation administrative board decides the funding budget allocated to the project.

### **Specific conditions**

- A project that has been submitted to the annual ARSEP call for proposal, but has not been funded, can be re-submitted to the EDMUS call for proposal, provided changes have been made in response to the ARSEP reviewers.
- Those changes have to be highlighted in the new proposal.
- If not, the project will not be reviewed again and previous ARSEP reviews will be used for discussion by the medico-scientific committee.

### **Each application is divided in 2 files:**

- **An administrative file.** Please, send this file in MS Word format. Information provided in this file (summaries in French for a lay audience) will be used by EDMUS Foundation and ARSEP Foundation for their own communication needs.
- **A project file.** This file could be sent in PDF or MS Word format.

**BEWARE:**

A completed application should have these 2 files.

**Applications must be sent by:**

**1- e-mail** to Mrs Véronique MILLOT at [call@fondation-edmus.org](mailto:call@fondation-edmus.org)

For the electronic version, we cannot accept more than 2 electronic files per grant application.  
The title of the email should contain the name of the candidate + "AO-FEDMUS 2019"

**2- post to:**

Fondation EDMUS – Mrs Véronique MILLOT  
Service de Neurologie A – Hôpital Neurologique  
59 boulevard Pinel  
69677 BRON cedex – France

**For more information:**

Contact Mrs Véronique MILLOT at [call@fondation-edmus.org](mailto:call@fondation-edmus.org)

**Results in December 2019.**