

Announcements

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE NATIONAL CANCER INSTITUTE AND THE EUROPEAN ORGANIZATION FOR RESEARCH ON TREATMENT OF CANCER: GUIDELINES FOR APPLICANTS

PREAMBLE

THE National Cancer Institute (NCI) and the European Organization for Research on Treatment of Cancer (EORTC) enter into this memorandum of understanding in recognition of the fact that the two organizations share common goals relative to the investigation and treatment of human cancer. Specifically, these goals involve research into (1) the etiology and prevention of cancer through an understanding of mechanisms of cell differentiation and transformation; (2) improved methods of detection, diagnosis and treatment of cancer in man; and (3) dissemination of the latest information on advances in cancer research and treatment to the practicing physician. In recognition of these common goals, the two organizations acknowledge that the exchange of scientific information between EORTC and cancer research institutions in the United States, as well as the training of research scientists through scientific exchange, will be beneficial to the effort to prevent and treat cancer.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this agreement is to establish an EORTC Research Training Program which will allow cancer research scientists affiliated with the EORTC to receive training at the NCI and at other cancer research institutions in the United States, and for American scientists to receive training at EORTC-affiliated institutions. This program will provide an opportunity for EORTC-affiliated scientists with a minimum of 3 yr of relevant post-doctoral experience to receive research training for up to 3 yr in an American laboratory and for American scientists with similar experience to receive research training for up to 3 yr in a European or Israeli laboratory affiliated with the EORTC.

STRUCTURE

In carrying out this new EORTC Research Training Program, the following points are mutually agreed to:

1. The EORTC will establish an international European jury of at least five outstanding

European cancer research scientists representing a cross-section of disciplines in both preclinical and clinical research. The members shall serve 3 yr terms, with approximately one-third of the appointments expiring each year. The committee has developed an application form to solicit nominees from American and EORTC-affiliated institutions for the EORTC Research Training Program. This jury will review applications received and will forward nominees to the appropriate Division Director of the NCI or to the director of the appropriate research program of the non-NCI American research institution or EORTC-affiliated research institution. Applications will be reviewed according to the following criteria:

- A. Affirmation that the candidate has had at least 3 yr relevant post-doctoral research experience, and that the application is supported by endorsement from a cancer research program or institution in Europe, Israel, or the United States.
- B. The candidate has an appropriate scientific background in terms of both education and experience.
- C. The candidate has presented a meritorious research plan.
- D. The laboratory preceptor for the applicant has affirmed in writing willingness to accept the candidate as a Guest Researcher.
- E. The applicant has given the names of at least three scientists for reference as to the applicant's scientific capability.
- F. The applicant's home institution or other institution has provided a statement that upon completion of the training program the applicant will be considered for appointment to a research or academic position.

Members of the jury of EORTC are: D. G. Harnden (Manchester), F. Cleton (Leiden), C. G.

Schmidt (Essen), S. Garattini (Milano), M. Tubiana (Villejuif), P. Siegenthaler (Bern), U. Veronesi (Milano) and H. Tagnon, chairman (Brussels).

2. The EORTC jury will forward the names of the nominees to the appropriate NCI Division Director for acceptance into the program.

3. The names of those individuals accepted into the program will be forwarded by the NCI to the Chairman of the EORTC jury for notification to the applicant and the appropriate research institutions.

4. Upon acceptance into the program, the EORTC will pay the stipend and assist each participant in obtaining:

- A. Travel expenses for the participant and the participant's immediate family to and from the United States.
- B. Health insurance for the participant and dependents during the period of training.

5. Stipends are expected to be in the range of \$25,000-35,000 per year.

6. Source of the payment of the stipend: Each year, the Administrative Board of the EORTC makes a final decision as to the total budget destined to implement the program. This EORTC approved budget will contribute 50% of the stipend. The other fifty per cent will be contributed by the European institution sponsoring the applicant. This proportion can be modified in exceptional cases as proposed by the jury. All payments by EORTC are subordinate to approval by the EORTC Administrative Board.

7. For those applicants who will perform research at the National Cancer Institute, the NCI, through the Fogarty International Center of the National Institutes of Health, will arrange for the participant to be appointed as a Guest Researcher at the National Institutes of Health, and will make visa arrangements for entry into the United States. Applicants selected for training assignments at other American or EORTC research institutions will make visa arrangements through the host institution.

8. With regard to protection of copyrights, inventions or discoveries made or conceived under this agreement or its implementing arrangements, the parties agree that pertinent policies and regulations of the Department of Health and the Human Services, the Public Health Service and the National Institutes of Health will apply

whenever a fellow elects to train at the National Institutes of Health or whenever a U.S. federal employee participates under this agreement.

CONCLUSION

It is the expressed desire of the National Cancer Institute and the European Organization for Research on Treatment of Cancer that this collaborative arrangement be established to facilitate the training opportunities of outstanding cancer research scientists in the United States, Europe and Israel, and that it foster collaboration between the European community, Israel and the National Cancer Institute.

ADDITIONAL GUIDELINES

1. The Fulbright foundations in the respective countries will be informed by the EORTC Committee of the selection of a fellow. The applicant should then apply directly to the Fulbright Foundation in order to obtain travel funds.

2. Letters of recommendation (point E, page 2 of the contract) should be sent directly to the president of the jury and not submitted by the applicant.

3. There should be a reasonable assurance that the applicant, if selected for the fellowship, will be appointed in a European institution on his return.

4. Fellowships are granted for 1 yr and can be renewed twice for a period of 1 yr.

5. Any request for renewal must be submitted in writing by the laboratory sponsor to the chairman of the EORTC jury 4 months prior to the expiration date of the current fellowship year. If funds are available and the home institution agrees, the extension can be granted by the chairman of the jury.

6. Recipients of EORTC-NCI fellowships travel to the U.S. on United States government-sponsored 'Exchange Visitors' visas. They may not travel on another visa.

7. Anyone admitted as an Exchange Visitor to the U.S. must reside outside of the U.S. for 2 yr before seeking permanent residence in the U.S.

Additional information may be obtained from:

Prof. H. J. Tagnon,
Boulevard de Waterloo, 125,
B-1000 Bruxelles, Belgium
Tel: (02) 538.27.66; Telex: 22773

**1ST INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS ON NEO-ADJUVANT
CHEMOTHERAPY**

7-9 November 1985, Paris, France

The First International Congress on Neo-adjuvant Chemotherapy will be held in Paris, France, on 7-9 November 1985.

Further information can be obtained at the following address:

**SOMPS — 1ST INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS ON
NEO-ADJUVANT CHEMOTHERAPY,
Pavillon Jacquart,
Hôpital de la Salpêtrière,
47 boulevard de l'Hôpital,
75651 Paris Cédex 13, France
Tél.: (1) 570.28.30/570.28.29**