



## UK Dermatology Clinical Trials Network SAS Award

Up to two Awards of up to £1,500 each will be awarded to UK Dermatology SAS grade staff to work with the UK Dermatology Clinical Trials Network (UK DCTN). The UK DCTN co-ordinating centre is based within the Centre of Evidence Based Dermatology at The University of Nottingham, led by Prof Hywel Williams.

The aim of the award is to develop skills in clinical trials and critical appraisal in years one and two and then apply these skills in year three as the successful applicants become increasingly involved in the Network.

Briefly, the award will be as follows and each prize will be composed of expenses to cover:

### Year One

1. An opportunity to spend 2-3 days at the UK Dermatology Clinical Trials Network co-ordinating centre to understand the structure and processes of organising a national trials network. This visit will also involve finding out more about other aspects of the Centre of Evidence Based Dermatology (CEBD) such as the Cochrane Skin Group and NHS Evidence-skin disorders (formerly known as the NLH Skin Disorders Specialist Library).
2. The development of critical appraisal skills by working on a targeted reading curriculum with Professor Hywel Williams and other UK DCTN award winners such as the UK DCTN SpR fellows. This will be conducted via e-mail and teleconferences (3 over the year) along with time spent at the UK DCTN co-ordinating centre. The successful applicants will be encouraged to discuss those articles that are selected for discussion at their local journal club and submit a commentary on an important critically appraised trial to the evidence-based section of *The Archives of Dermatology*.
3. The Fellow will join the UKDCTN Steering Committee and attend relevant meetings (2-3 per year).

### Year Two

1. All expenses paid to attend the BEES 'Getting to Grips with Evidence-Based Dermatology' Course at Nottingham to understand the fundamentals of clinical trial interpretation and critical appraisal. The course is for 3 days, and the

award will cover the course fees (currently £325), accommodation and travel costs.

2. Continue with Steering Committee responsibilities (2-3 meetings per year).

## **Year Three**

1. The successful applicant will join a trial development team and see the development of a clinical trial through from idea through to vignette, through to protocol and funded study. They will participate in all associated meetings and teleconferences for this team. If preferred, alternative opportunities for research development can be pursued for example by joining a systematic review team with the Cochrane Skin Group based at the CEBD or involvement in writing an annual evidence update for NHS Evidence-skin disorders.
2. All expenses paid to attend the CEBD Annual Evidence Update Meeting. The programme for this one day event includes presentations by European experts in their field of recently conducted randomized controlled trials, clinical viewpoints and systematic reviews.

Other research outputs include co-authorship of the clinical trial or systematic review which they have been involved in developing and submission of the trial protocol to the BJD for consideration for publication.

It is estimated that the time commitment for this award will be 6 days per annum, for a period of three years.

Awards will be made on the basis of:

1. A case for support (two A4 pages maximum) from the applicant. (CVs may also be sent in addition)
2. Two references from local colleagues.

All applications and informal enquiries should be made to:

Dr Carron Layfield, UK DCTN Network Manager, Centre of Evidence Based Dermatology, University of Nottingham, Kings Meadow Campus (Room A103), Lenton Lane, Nottingham NG7 2NR

**The closing date for applications is Friday 5<sup>th</sup> March 2010, with the Award to commence April 2010.**

The visit to the UK DCTN co-ordinating centre has been scheduled for 24<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup> May 2010.