

# 2018 HYDRATION FOR KIDNEY HEALTH (H4KH) Competition Guidelines

## Introduction

The number of people affected by chronic kidney disease (CKD) and end-stage kidney disease (ESKD) is increasing worldwide. The main strategy for reducing the risk for developing ESKD and associated cardiovascular diseases is twofold 1) improve the early detection of CKD and 2) identify modifiable factors to reduce the progression of CKD. Recent studies have identified an association between fluid intake, urinary markers and kidney function in the general population. There are ongoing randomized controlled trials studying the effect of hydration on kidney health but they are limited to certain populations and levels of kidney function. Studies (randomized controlled, cohort controlled, observational) that address diverse questions frequently have large, validated databases, representing global populations, containing data on kidney function and some measure of hydration (fluid intake, urine volume, osmolality, sodium). Promotion and support for use of this data to study the effect of hydration on health will broaden the awareness and knowledge of the effect of hydration on kidney health.

Danone Nutricia Research and the ISN have collaborated to create the **HYDRATION for KIDNEY HEALTH Research Initiative** to stimulate interest of both established and new researchers to explore the role of hydration in kidney health.

The objectives of the **HYDRATION FOR KIDNEY HEALTH** Research Initiative are:

- To enhance awareness and knowledge of the effects of hydration on kidney health
- To expand the level of scientific evidence on the effects of hydration on kidney health
- To expand research capacity by supporting young investigators focusing on prevention of chronic kidney disease
- To engage researchers in the development of transdisciplinary research networks
- To create sustainable momentum in supporting research in the effect of hydration and kidney health

Application to the HYDRATION FOR KIDNEY HEALTH (H4KH) Research Initiative is open to applicants from all disciplines relevant to kidney disease (clinical, health services and population health disciplines) to support the following two projects:

## PROJECT 1 - New Investigator Grant:

### Eligibility

- Applicant must be within the first five years of their first faculty appointment at the time the grant commences
- Candidates must have a MD, PhD or equivalent degree
- Individuals who have clearly demonstrated excellence during their pre-doctoral and post-doctoral training in kidney disease and interest in hydration for kidney health.
- Applicant must be financially supported by the university or the institution at which the candidate is currently employed and guaranteed employment at the same institution upon completion of the first year of the award
- The applicant must have a supervisor for research at the home institution to support the development of the research proposal
- Ability to travel to and reside in Canada (no visa assistance will be provided)
- Fluent (speaking, reading and writing) in English
- Previous experience in clinical research and statistical analysis is an asset
- The applicant will spend the first 12 months working in the Kidney Clinical Research Unit in London, Ontario (Canada), to gain exposure and skill in clinical research, statistical analysis and begin work on research project(s) related to hydration for kidney health.
- The applicant will have the opportunity to audit courses within the Faculty of Epidemiology and Biostatistics
- The applicant must provide a proposal for the area of study while in London, as part of this application. This study will be advanced, in conjunction with the home supervisor and prepared for implementation in the second year.
- The second year will be in their home institution, completing their research project and building infrastructure support for further research in hydration.

### Evaluation

- The quality of the applicant in previous research and independent thinking and the integration of the skills learned into the applicant's future plans for research in hydration is an important component in the evaluation of the application. Therefore, a clear, concise and comprehensive description of how this experience will enrich and foster future research in hydration for kidney health must be provided.

### Conditions of Support

- During year one and two of this award the awardee must show proof of progression of the research initiative.
- During the second year of the award (or before) the research will be presented at the World Congress of Nephrology 2017 and a paper submitted to a peer reviewed journal.

- In any publication or presentation of the project the grant awardee is requested to have the following acknowledgment: ‘The ISN-H4KH Initiative received an unrestricted grant from Danone Nutricia Research’.

### **Tenure**

- The award will commence on within 6 months of the award and will run for the eligible duration.
- An award may be terminated at any time for good cause by the awardee or the ISN Clinical Research Committee.

### **Amount**

- The Award provides support for the research initiative to a maximum of \$70,000US (total). In the first year the new investigator will be awarded a maximum of \$45,000US to offset expenses related to travel and accommodations. Funds remaining after payment of travel and accommodations may be used to offset living expenses. In the second year, a maximum of \$25,000US can be used to support the research and build infrastructure in the home institution. No further funds will be awarded to support travel to the World Congress of Nephrology

### **Accountability**

- Annual progress report to the ISN H4KH Research Initiative Steering Committee, publication of results in a peer reviewed publication and presentation of preliminary/final results at the Hydration for Health Scientific Conference and/or WCN.

### **Stipend**

- This award does NOT include specific salary support.

### **Payment of Award**

- Awards will be paid to the successful applicant, directly from the ISN. Payment for travel and accommodation will be paid to the applicant from ISN upon presentation of appropriate documentation/receipts.

### **Application**

- Applications must be submitted online at the following link: [https://form.jotformeu.com/sdamster/ISN-H4KH\\_2018\\_New\\_Investigator](https://form.jotformeu.com/sdamster/ISN-H4KH_2018_New_Investigator), also available on the ISN website.
- Applications and all addenda must be received by **October 1, 2017**
- Awards will be announced **February 1, 2018**

### **Questions**

If you have any question or problem regarding this Grant, please email us at [h4kh@theisn.org](mailto:h4kh@theisn.org)

## PROJECT 2 - Hydration and Kidney Health Grant

- Grants will be funded to researchers with expertise in and access to:
  1. reliable and valid data in an existing data base
  2. data reflective of a representative sample of the general population and or a population with chronic kidney disease
  3. demographics and comorbidities (Diabetes and hypertension)
  4. serial measure of kidney function
- Individuals who have clearly demonstrated excellence in research in kidney disease and interest in hydration for kidney health.
- The quality of the proposed research plan is an important component in the evaluation of the application. Therefore, a clear, concise and comprehensive description of the proposed research plan must be given.
- Analytical support may be provided by Kidney Clinical Research Unit, London, Ontario (Canada), if required.

### Conditions of Support

- At the midpoint of the grant funding, proof of progression of the research initiative must be provided to the ISN h4KH Steering Committee.
- The research will be presented at the World Congress of Nephrology 2017 and a paper submitted to a peer reviewed journal upon completion of the work.

### Tenure

- The award will commence on **March 1, 2018** and will run for the eligible duration.
- An award may be terminated at any time for good cause by the awardee or the ISN Clinical Research Committee.

### Payment of Award

- Awards will be paid to the institution where the investigator is employed, to support the research initiative

### Amount and Duration of the Grant Funding

The maximum funding per grant is \$25,000US per year, for a maximum of two years.

In conjunction with the Principal Investigator, the H4KH Research Initiative Steering Committee will establish the amount of funding and granting period for every award. This granting period represents the timeframe for which the grantee has to complete the study.

The travel to WCN should be taken from this Award received.

### **Accountability**

The study must commence within two months of notification of a successful grant. Annual progress reports will be sent to the ISN H4KH Research Initiative Steering Committee, with publication of results in a peer reviewed publication and presentation of preliminary/final results at the Hydration for Health Scientific Conference and/or WCN 2017.

The individual or institution to which a grant is paid (the Grantee) must immediately notify and return unused funds to ISN if unable, for any reason, to carry out or complete the research for which the grant is given.

### **Publication policy**

- Publications deriving from work supported by the Hydration and Kidney Health Research Initiative will be reviewed and co-signed by the Chair of the H4KH Research Initiative Steering Committee. In addition the project the grant awardee is requested to have the following acknowledgment in any publication or presentation related to his/her project: ‘The ISN-H4KH Initiative received an unrestricted grant from Danone Nutricia Research’.

### **Application**

- Applications must be submitted online at the following link: [https://form.jotformeu.com/sdamster/ISN-H4KH\\_2018\\_Hydration\\_Grant](https://form.jotformeu.com/sdamster/ISN-H4KH_2018_Hydration_Grant), also available on the ISN website.
- Applications and all addenda must be received by **October 1, 2017**
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### **Questions**

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