



**Myeloma Canada Announces
The Dr Andrew R Belch Myeloma Education and Enriched Training (MEET) Grant
for Young Investigators**

In recognition of the outstanding life-time achievements of Dr Andrew Belch in the field of multiple myeloma, Myeloma Canada, under the vision of our co-founder Aldo Del Col, is delighted to announce the establishment of the *Dr Andrew R Belch Myeloma Education and Enriched Training (MEET)* grant for young myeloma investigators.

Dr Belch, now retired, has been a driving force in myeloma clinical research, providing Canadian myeloma patients access to novel agents through clinical trials years before they were made available to the general public. Dr Belch has been an active supporter of Myeloma Canada and the Myeloma Canada Research Network (MCRN) since their inception, including having served as Chair of the Myeloma Canada Scientific Advisory Board.

It is in recognition of Dr Belch's lifelong mentoring of young researchers that Myeloma Canada's MEET grant has been established.

GRANT OBJECTIVES

Myeloma Canada has created the MEET grant to foster the development as well as support the participation of qualified young investigators at international myeloma conferences.

GRANT DESCRIPTION

For 2019, Myeloma Canada will make a total of 6 MEET grants available, each in the amount of CDN \$ 4,000. The MEET grant is to be used exclusively to support the recipient's registration and participation fees, travel and lodging for *either* the 2019 International Myeloma Workshop (IMW, Sept 12-15, 2019, Boston, MA) *or* the 2019 American Society of Hematology Conference (ASH, Dec 7-10, Orlando, FL) once proof of acceptance has been received by the Chair of the Myeloma Canada Grant Committee. There will be 3 grants allocated to each conference.

ELIGIBILITY AND RELEVANCE

To be eligible for the MEET grant, applicants must:

- submit an abstract that is clinically directed, or clinically relevant, for Canadian myeloma patients to either IMW 2019 or ASH 2019;
- be 35 years of age or younger at the time of application;
- hold a PhD, MD, or equivalent medical degree;
- be currently enrolled in a Canadian residency program in the field of myeloma, with the intention of specializing in myeloma in Canada;
- be the primary author on the submitted abstract;
- be able to attend the conference, in person, to present their abstract;
- submit a completed application form to Myeloma Canada at andrewbelchgrant@myeloma.ca
(Please note: only complete email applications will be accepted)

Note: The abstract must be selected for oral or poster presentation at IMW 2019 or ASH 2019 for the applicant to be eligible.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Only electronic email applications will be accepted.

All submissions **MUST** include all of the following information to be considered:

- Applicant's name, date of birth, address, email address, and phone number(s)
- Institution name and address
- Applicant's current position and name of the director for the research project (if applicable)
- Copy of the accepted, submitted abstract
- The applicant's CV

Note: An applicant may apply for each of the conferences, however an applicant may only be awarded 1 MEET grant.

APPLICATION EVALUATION

The Myeloma Canada Grant Review Committee – with input from our Board of Directors – will, according to the scores of the abstracts submitted for either a poster or an oral presentation, decide which applicants will receive one of the 6 available MEET grants. Only 1 MEET grant per recipient will be awarded.

Once the selection process is complete, the Myeloma Canada Grant Committee Chair will notify potential winners that their abstract has been retained.

Note: Any member of Myeloma Canada, the Myeloma Canada Grant Review Committee, or Myeloma Canada's Board of Directors, who is directly linked to an applicant, will have access to the applications but will not be involved in the voting process.

TIMELINES and DEADLINES

If you choose to submit your MEET Grant application PRIOR to receiving your abstract acceptance from IMW or ASH, you must forward a copy of your abstract acceptance to Myeloma Canada by the MEET Grant submission deadline date in order to be considered eligible for the grant.

International Myeloma Workshop (IMW) 2019 *

Sept 12-15, 2019, Boston, MA

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| June 19, 2019 | Deadline for abstract submissions to IMW |
| June 30, 2019 | Notifications from IMW to applicants regarding abstract acceptance |
| August 15, 2019 | Submission deadline for MEET Grant application, with a copy of abstract acceptance from IMW, to Myeloma Canada |
| August 30, 2019 | MEET Grant announced to winners |

*Visit www.imw2019boston.org for full information

American Society of Hematology Conference (ASH) 2019 *

Dec 7 – 10, 2019, Orlando, FL

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| August 1, 2019 | Deadline for abstract submissions to ASH |
| 1 st week October, 2019 | Notifications from ASH to applicants regarding abstract acceptance. (Check ASH website for date updates.) |
| October 31, 2019 | Submission deadline for MEET Grant application, with a copy of abstract acceptance from ASH, to Myeloma Canada |
| November 7, 2019 | MEET Grant announced to winners |

*Visit www.hematology.org for full information

GRANT EVALUATION

Each application will be judged on the following criteria:

- The probability of an advance in the diagnosis or treatment leading to improved myeloma patient outcomes in the near-term;
- The novelty of the concept and strategy for the research;
- Thoughtful and clear presentation;
- The overall plan for bringing the research findings to clinical application.

QUESTIONS?

If you have any questions or require additional information regarding the *Dr Andrew R Belch Myeloma Education & Enriched Training (MEET)* Grant from Myeloma Canada, please contact andrewbelchgrant@myeloma.ca or Martine Elias at melias@myeloma.ca

Note: Following their conference presentation, Myeloma Canada reserves the right to publicize and report on the recipient and their abstract on Myeloma Canada's websites, in Myeloma Canada publications (Myeloma Matters email newsletter, social media, Year in Review), media releases and general announcements. Only 1 meet grant per recipient will be awarded. If selected, the recipient agrees to cite support from Myeloma Canada in any publication resulting from the research conducted during the grant period. The Myeloma Canada MEET grant cannot be deferred and is non-transferable.