EFIC-GRÜNENTHAL-GRANT (E-G-G)

What is the E-G-G?

Criteria

Individual eligibility criteria

The E-G-G is open to applicants who are:

- Healthcare professionals or researchers working in the field of pain management and/or pain research
- Holding a PhD degree (for a maximum of 7 years on 2 September 2024)
- Holding a temporary or permanent position at a hospital, university, or research institution of any member country of **European Pain Federation EFIC®**

Project eligibility criteria

The E-G-G is intended for translational or clinical research aiming at improving our understanding of pain mechanisms in humans and/or improving diagnosis, treatment and management of pain in patients, including innovative educational initiatives.

Project evaluation criteria

The members of the **Working group for grants and prizes of the EFIC** are responsible for the selection of suitable applicants and award grants under the respective E-G-G. The selection shall be based on the following aspects:

Strength of the applicant
– Strength of the applicant, including training, research experience and publication record
– Both junior and senior researchers are encouraged to apply. Evaluation of the career trajectory will consider number of years since completion of PhD (or other qualifying diploma)
– Adequacy between expertise of the applicant and the proposed research

Novelty and originality of the research question or approach

– Hypothesis testing is preferred over empirical data collection
– Research with clear short- or long-term potential to improve the quality of life of patients with pain will be valorized
– Research on a particularly interesting topic or using a particularly original approach is encouraged, even if there is a risk of failure

Quality of the proposal
– Clarity and pertinence of the research objectives and research plan, and the extent to which they go bebyond the state-of-the-art
– Soundness of the proposed methodology and study design, including the underlying concepts, models and assumptions
– Validity of the analysis plan including justification for planned sample size

Feasibility

– Feasibility of the proposed methods and research plan
– The proposed research should be achievable within two years after receipt of the grant
– In general, E-G-G sponsored projects are self-contained, and it should be feasible to carry out the planned with a total budget of up to €40,000. The expert panel will consider funding a subproject within a larger project, but this needs to be explained and justified, and the E-G-G sponsored subproject must be a recognizable module within the larger project.

Timeline

Award ceremony

How to apply

EGG Webinars

E-G-G Winner Testimonials

Find out how winning an E-G-G has impacted the career of previous recipients.

Maud Frot, 2004 E-G-G Winner

"After receiving the EGG, I managed to get a permanent position as a researcher in France. Obtaining this award was important to compete for the position of researcher and also to support myself financially while waiting for the position. Since then I have continued my research career in the field of pain. First of all, I continued to explore, thanks to electrodes implanted in humans, the different cortical regions responding to painful stimuli by studying their temporal dynamics of activation. In particular, we worked a lot on the exploration of the insula which participates in both the sensory and emotional integration of pain. As this region is buried in the brain, the technique of implanted electrodes has been particularly adapted to the exploration of this region.

We have also used this technique to study the early activation of cortical structures that we know to be involved in the perception of pain, this time in response to the vision of another person's pain and in particular in response to the vision of a face expressing pain. We are also interested in the study of the electrophysiological correlates of pain perception. We are trying to identify brain markers that would indicate the perception of pain as such. Finally, we have been developing for a few years a new research theme concerning the memory of pain. We are particularly interested in understanding the mechanisms of long-term memory of pain, which can be qualified as traumatic memory."

Publications:

- Frot M, Mauguière F, Garcia-Larrea L. Insular Dichotomy in the Implicit Detection of Emotions in Human Faces. Cereb Cortex. 2022 Jan 14:bhab477. doi: 10.1093/cercor/bhab477.
- Chapon A, Perchet C, Garcia-Larrea L, Frot M. Hyperalgesia when observing pain-related images is a genuine bias in perception and enhances autonomic responses. Sci Rep. 2019 Oct 24;9(1):15266. doi: 10.1038/s41598-019-51743-3.
- Frot M, Faillenot I, Mauguière F. Processing of nociceptive input from posterior to anterior insula in humans. Hum Brain Mapp. 2014 Nov;35(11):5486-99. doi: 10.1002/hbm.22565.

Helge Kasch, 2005 E-G-G Winner

Katharina Zimmermann, 2013 E-G-G Winner

Flavia Mancini, 2014 E-G-G Winner