

Healthcare industry BW

"Clinical Trials" junior researcher academy

The German Research Foundation (DFG) has started up the first junior researcher academy related to "clinical trials". The academy hopes to encourage interested young scientists working in clinical and biometrical areas to become involved in patient-oriented clinical research issues as early as possible in their careers.

Young scientists working in medicine and medical biometry will be supported by the academy in their efforts to transfer ideas from clinical work into scientifically high-quality clinical trials.

Important goals in the planning and conducting of clinical trials are not only the clarification of immanent pathophysiological, epidemiological and diagnostic issues, but also the creation of a valid, evidence-based basis for the introduction or alteration of treatments or innovative medications and for these to be transferred into clinical practice.

Working in cooperation with the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF), the DFG has reacted to a range of deficits existing in the area of clinical trials, in particular through the initiation of a "Clinical Trials" funding programme that has provided support to more than 50 multi-centre clinical studies in medical schools dealing with a broad range of issues. These studies have been ongoing since 2005. As it is often necessary to adapt trial types to specific clinical problems, the institutions that fund these studies decided to cover as broad as possible a spectrum of controlled and multi-centre clinical trials.

Young medical professionals undergoing specialist training or young scientists whose doctoral thesis is no more than four years old and who are interested in doing patient-oriented research in the field of clinical trials are eligible to apply for funding. The applicants' interest in patient-oriented research has to be documented by a relevant scientific publication to which they have contributed.

Deadline for application is **17th March 2008**.

Further information on the programme is given in the original press release from the German Research Foundation (see link in the top right-hand corner).

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 [Information and application guidelines \(PDF, 143.43 KB \)](#)

Further information:

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