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The Bioscientifica Trust exists to distribute funds to assist and support early-career scientists and clinicians in biomedicine and the life sciences by helping to facilitate networking, cooperative research, and other interactions through the provision of small grants. The application process aims to be quick and simple and is open to investigators from across the globe. Applications are competitively assessed and awarded over three funding rounds throughout each year.

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# MAJOR FUNDING FOR THE VITAMIN D WORKSHOP IS PROVIDED BY THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE ON AGING



ABSTACT - The Vitamin D Workshop Inc. was established in 1974 as a mechanism for organization of academic meetings devoted to the science of vitamin D. Vitamin D exerts biological actions via the vitamin D receptor which is expressed throughout the body. Basic cell and molecular research, epidemiological studies and clinical trials have linked vitamin D to a host of chronic diseases including osteoporosis, cancer, heart disease and obesity. The surge of publications on vitamin D and chronic disease has drawn attention to an individual's vitamin D status and the possibility that vitamin D supplementation may have preventive actions against chronic diseases. Worldwide, government agencies are re-evaluating recommended dietary allowances for vitamin D, and many are considering fortification and regulatory issues. Physicians and other health professionals have received mixed messages concerning when to measure vitamin D status, what the "optimal" serum vitamin D level is and how to institute supplementation regimens for deficient patients. Collectively these factors warrant an annual meeting of vitamin D scientists to disseminate current findings, discuss the emerging basic and applied research, and bring areas of controversy to light. The Vitamin D Workshop is the only recurring scientific meeting specifically focused on vitamin D. Through keynote lectures, invited speakers, promoted oral communications and poster presentations, the Workshop's broad scope combines state of the art basic research on vitamin D biology for basic scientists with clinical and observational reports geared towards applied scientists, policy makers and health professionals.

Funding for this conference was made possible, in part, by R13 AG48689-01 from the National Institute on Aging. The views expressed in written conference materials or publications and by speakers and moderators do not necessarily reflect the official policies of the Department of Health and Human Services; nor does mention by trade names, commercial practices, or organizations imply endorsement by the U.S. Government.

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