TONY NORMAN AWARDS

Three awards honoring VDW founder Anthony Norman will be offered to the top ranked abstracts submitted by junior faculty, post-doctoral fellows or graduate students. Candidates must be conducting either basic or clinical research on vitamin D and must be the first or senior author on a submitted abstract. Junior faculty must be within 5 years of their first independent appointment and fellows within 5 years of their PhD, MD or other doctoral degree. Graduate students must be currently enrolled in a PhD program. The major selection criterion is the scientific merit of the abstract. After abstract submission and ranking, competitive candidates will be asked to submit a brief CV and a letter confirming eligibility from their Department Chair or supervisor. The awardees will be scheduled to present their work as a promoted oral communication or a plenary poster in Strasbourg.



NIH National Institute on Aging





TONY NORMAN AWARD

Sponsored by the National Institutes of Health

Patricio Artusa

McGill University, Canada

"Regulation of cortical transcription factor AIRE by the VDR during early thymic development – implications for autoimmunity"

NIH National Institute on Aging



TONY NORMAN AWARD

Sponsored by the National Institutes of Health

Asunción Fernández-Barral

Sols-Morreale Research Institute, Madrid, Spain

"Calcitriol modulates age-dependent drug response in paired patient-derived normal and tumor colorectal organoids"

NIH National Institute on Aging

TRAINEE TRAVEL AWARDS

These awards to offset travel costs are intended for individuals who are still in training, namely undergraduate or graduate students and postdoctoral fellows (including clinical fellows). Selection will be based on the scientific merit of a submitted abstract. Award recipients must be the first/submitting author and must attend the conference in Strasbourg. Documentation of training status may be requested in the form of an email from the candidate's supervisor. Winners will give a short talk or a poster presentation at the 2026 Vitamin D Workshop.

NIH National Institute on Aging

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TRAINEE TRAVEL AWARD

Sponsored by the National Institutes of Health

Adriana Duraki

University of Illinois, Chicago, USA

"Vitamin D deficiency leads to a pro-inflammatory microenvironment in the prostate that supports carcinogenesis"

NIH National Institute on Aging



TRAINEE TRAVEL AWARD

Sponsored by the National Institutes of Health

Priman Fau

In Life Institute, Polish Academy of Sciences, Poland

"Temporal stratification of promoter-proximal versus enhancer VDR binding directs vitamin D responsive transcription"

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TRAINEE TRAVEL AWARD

Sponsored by the National Institutes of Health

Vanessa Friedrich

IGBMC, Strasbourg, France

"Characterization of treatment resistance in prostate cancer"

NIH National Institute on Aging

TRAINEE TRAVEL AWARD

Sponsored by the National Institutes of Health

Shivani Grover

Rutgers University, USA

"Single-cell transcriptomic insights into vitamin D action in aging intestinal epithelium"

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TRAINEE TRAVEL AWARD

Sponsored by the National Institutes of Health

Mariusz Jankowski

In Life Institute, Polish Academy of Sciences, Poland

"VDR-dependent transcriptional reprogramming under inflammatory co-stimulation in human monocytes"

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TRAINEE TRAVEL AWARD

Sponsored by the National Institutes of Health

Domitille Lelong

Aix Marseille University, France

"Impact of vitamin D and inflammation on the functional effects of adipocyte-derived extracellular vesicle"

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TRAINEE TRAVEL AWARD

Sponsored by the National Institutes of Health

Kayleigh Rillaerts

KU Leuven, Belgium

"Metabolic alterations in systemic VDR knockout mice on a high fat rescue diet"

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TRAINEE TRAVEL AWARD

Sponsored by the National Institutes of Health

Fatemeh Sarmadi

McGill University, Canada

"Bifunctional vitamin D receptor agonist/histone deacetylase inhibitors regulate the cell cycle, senescence and immunogenicity in melanoma cells"

NIH National Institute on Aging

YOUNG RESEARCHER AWARD

Sponsored by the Rare Disease Network OSCAR

Noé Pierrat

IGBMC, France

"A selective antagonist of VDR as a therapeutic approach for calcitriol-induced hypercalcemia"

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POSTER PRESENTATION AWARD

Sponsored by the National Institutes of Health

Agnieszka Barbach

Hirszfeld Institute of Immunology and Experimental Therapy, Polish Academy of Sciences, Wrocław, Poland

"The significance of heat shock protein 90 in calcitriol and tacalcitol anticancer activity against colorectal cancer cells"

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