

Bern, January 2025

## SAKK / Incyte “HERo in Science Award”

For the past 10 years more women than men have graduated from medical school each year and still, women remain largely underrepresented in impactful clinical research positions. This award is aimed to support outstanding women to contribute to clinical cancer research in Switzerland, to promote scientific excellence, and fosters equity and innovation.

The award is endowed with CHF 30'000.- and should encourage the continuation of a clinical or translational research project.

### Scope

The award is granted to a female researcher who is conducting a clinical or translational research project with a tangible improvement on patient management and/or outcomes in the field of oncology and hematologic malignancies.

### Call for Applications

Prior to your application, please carefully read the applicable award rules. In case of questions, please do not hesitate to contact SAKK.

**Please send your application until March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2025.**

Full applications must be sent via e-mail to [events@sakk.ch](mailto:events@sakk.ch) and shall include:

- Project proposal max. 5 pages including the rationale, methodology, feasibility, budget and potential impact
- Curriculum Vitae of the candidate
- Publication list of the candidate
  - Publications may be primary research or review articles
  - The candidate must be an author in all publications
  - Publications must have been published in the period 2015-2025 in a peer-reviewed journal or must be accepted for publication in a peer-reviewed journal
- Letter of support from the respective head of the candidate's current institution, incl. guarantee to provide sufficient research time for the project.

### Selection Process

An independent jury of experts, elected by the SAKK president, will evaluate the submitted applications based on (i) alignment with the scope of the award, (ii) quality, (iii) national and (iv) international (future) clinical impact, (v) innovative potential and novelty and (vi) feasibility.

## Award Announcement

Incyte Biosciences presents the SAKK / Incyte Award with the support of the Swiss Group of Clinical Cancer Research (SAKK) and an independent jury at the SAKK semi-annual meeting on May 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2025.

## Award Rules

### Eligible Candidates

An eligible candidate must fulfill the following criteria:

- a. Practicing **female** physician currently active in clinical and/or translational cancer research within Switzerland. The minimum requirement is a research activity in Switzerland from January 1<sup>st</sup> to December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2025
- b. No age restrictions apply
- c. The project should be in the planning phase or underway and conducted in Switzerland. Projects that have already been published or are completed are not eligible

### Valid Applications

1. Candidates can nominate themselves
2. The application must be submitted in English
3. Resubmission of applications that did not win in past editions are permitted as long as eligibility criteria are met

### Evaluation of Applications

1. An independent jury composed of 2-3 Swiss experts and a jury chair determined by the SAKK president. Employees of Incyte must not be part of the jury
2. Jury members must not evaluate applications of their own institution or university
3. Project proposals will be evaluated only if they are deemed to be eligible and feasible
4. The independent jury will evaluate the submitted valid applications on a scale from 1-10 (1 = worst, 10 = best) for each of the following criteria:
  - a. Alignment with scope of award, i.e. potential tangible improvements for patient management and outcomes in the treatment in oncology and hematology
  - b. Quality
  - c. Potential impact of career development of applicant
  - d. Feasibility within 24 months after being awarded the grant
5. The jury elects the winner based on the evaluation scoring. In case different applicants achieve the same scoring, the top scoring applications shall be discussed amongst the jury members. The jury shall elect 1 winner by consensus. In case consensus cannot be reached, the jury chair has the final decision
6. The jury is free and independent in its decisions. Its decisions are final and not subject to appeal
7. If additional expertise is needed the SAKK president can request written evaluations from additional reviewers
8. The SAKK and Incyte may waive the SAKK / Incyte Award if the jury considers none of the submitted applications worthy of support

### Awarding

1. At least 2 weeks before the award ceremony, all applicants will be notified, and the winner shall be confidentially informed by SAKK about winning the SAKK / Incyte Award

2. The winner or, if unable to attend, a representative of the winning research group or project shall present the scientific and/or clinical achievements for which the award is distributed at the SAKK semi-annual meeting on 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2025.
3. After the winner announcement, the SAKK / Incyte Award shall be distributed officially to the winner by an Incyte representative and the jury chair
4. Three weeks at most after the ceremony SAKK will transfer the prize money to the winning research group or project
5. The prize money must be used for the awarded project. Future evidence should be given at the next year SAKK semi-annual meeting with a brief presentation (10 min.) on how the money used has supported further research steps. The winner must further provide a written summary of the project no later than 1 year after the award ceremony. The written summary sent to the SAKK, will be forwarded to the jury president and the sponsor Incyte
6. The winning project should be concluded within 24 months after election

#### **Role of Incyte**

1. Incyte is the sole sponsor of the SAKK / Incyte Award
2. Incyte generates awareness about the SAKK / Incyte Award
3. Incyte must not be part of the award jury and thus must not evaluate applications but is invited as passive participant to the discussion of the submitted projects by the jury members
4. Together with the support of the SAKK an employee of Incyte will announce the winner together with the jury chair and hand over the award at the SAKK semi-annual meeting on 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2025