

Excellent Research in Integrative Medicine

Heel congratulates the winners of a new research prize awarded by the European Society of Integrative Medicine

Baden-Baden (Germany) / Florence (Italy) – The winners of the first “Excellence in Integrative Medicine Research Award” have been announced. Three scientists from Norway, the Netherlands and the USA have been awarded by the European Society of Integrative Medicine for their pre-clinical and clinical studies published in peer-reviewed journals. The prize giving ceremony was held on September 21st, during the 5th European Congress for Integrative Medicine (ECIM) in Florence, Italy.

The [European Society of Integrative Medicine \(ESIM\)](#) has announced the winners of a new international prize. The [“Excellence in Integrative Medicine Research Award”](#) recognizes outstanding scientific projects that document the integration of conventional and complementary medicine, including its bioregulatory aspects. The prize supported by Heel rewards both basic and clinical research with 10,000 Euro each. 43 manuscripts were reviewed by an independent jury of international scientists.

“We were highly impressed by the quality and quantity of the submitted publications that document and encourage further research in the field of Integrative Medicine”, says Prof. Dr. Stefan Willich, Chairman of the ESIM and Director of the [Institute for Social Medicine, Epidemiology and Health Economics of the Charité in Berlin, Germany](#). “The jury privileged the quality of the study designs, the level of the journal where the work was published and the fact that it serves the integrative medicine aspects of building the bridge between allopathic and complementary medicine.”

„This international award is unique”, says Dr. Ghassan Andraos, Head of Global Medicine at [Heel](#) in Baden-Baden, Germany.”The high quality of the rewarded scientific projects is recognized both through their publication in peer-reviewed journals and their selection by a jury of leading scientists in the field of Integrative Medicine. For Heel, this prize marks its long standing commitment to research in the field of Integrative Medicine and complements the company’s growing partnerships in the fields of pre-clinical and clinical research.”

This year's "Excellence in Integrative Medicine Research Award" in the pre-clinical category goes to Dr. Purusotam Basnet from the University Hospital of North Norway in Tromsø, Norway. His paper published in the Journal of Pharmaceutical Science is entitled 'Liposomal delivery system enhances anti-inflammatory properties of Curcumin' and contributes to better understanding and enhancement of pharmacological activity of this well established natural anti-oxidant.

The clinical award has been split in two. The winners are Dr. Erik Baars, professor at the University of Applied Sciences in Leiden, Netherlands, and Dr. Daniel Furst from the University of California in Los Angeles, USA. Baars' study published in the European Journal of Health Economics showed that 'Patients whose GP knows complementary medicine tend to have lower costs and live longer'. Furst's 'Double-blind, randomized controlled, pilot study comparing classic ayurvedic medicine, methotrexate and their combination in rheumatoid arthritis' was published in the Journal of Clinical Rheumatology.

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The "Excellence in Integrative Medicine Research Award":

In 2012, the European Society of Integrative Medicine (ESIM) announced the new "Excellence in Integrative Medicine Research Award". It recognizes innovative and excellent scientific projects in the field of integrative medicine. This includes the cooperation of conventional and complementary medicine as well as its bioregulatory aspects.

Two different categories are rewarded with 10.000 Euro each: one focusing on basic research, and the other focusing on clinical research. To qualify for this award, nominators must submit one scientific manuscript either published or accepted recently for publication in a peer-reviewed journal.

The winners are selected by an international jury. Its current members are Prof. Dr. Stefan Willich, Director of the Institute for Social Medicine, Epidemiology and Health Economics of the Charité in Berlin, Germany, Dr. Francesco Cardini from the Health and Social Agency of Emilia Romagna Region in Bologna, Italy, Prof. Dr. Michael Heinrich from the Centre for Pharmacognosy and Phytotherapy at the UCL School of Pharmacy in London, United Kingdom, Associate Professor Dr. Torkel Falkenberg from the Integrative Care Science Center in Järna, Sweden and Prof. Dr. Gustav Dobos from the Clinic for Complementary and Integrative Medicine in Essen, Germany. The award giving ceremony takes place during the annual European Congress for Integrative Medicine (ECIM).

The aim of the European Society of Integrative Medicine is the advancement of science, research, education and further training, support for medical care and providing advice on policy in the realm of integrative medicine. This includes holding scientific events and conducting dialogue with professional health care and public health associations and institutions.

Heel is a pharmaceutical company that develops, manufactures and distributes medicines based on natural substances. As the global leader in homeopathic combination preparations, the company is also a pioneer in the field of scientific research in natural healthcare. In cooperation with academic institutions, Heel actively fosters the concept of integrative medicine and is building the bridge between homeopathy and conventional medicine to improve patient care and health.

Biologische Heilmittel Heel GmbH, with corporate headquarters located in Baden-Baden/Germany and a staff of 1,300, achieved an annual turnover of 196 million euros in 2011 – 70 percent of it outside of Germany. Heel medicines are available through subsidiaries and distribution partners in over 50 countries around the world.
www.heel.com



Photo (f.l.t.r.): Prof. Dr. Stephan Willich, Dr. Ghassan Andraos, Associate Prof. Dr. Torkel Falkenberg, Dr. Francesco Cardini, Prof. Dr. Gustav Dobos, Prof. Dr. Michael Heinrich, Dr. Daniel Furst und Dr. Erik Baars after the presentation of the “Excellence in Integrative Medicine Research Award” in Florence. Italy. Source: Heel. Photo in printable quality is available at:
www.oha-communication.com/heel

Press contact:

Biologische Heilmittel Heel GmbH
Matthias Reinig
Head of Global Communication
Phone: +49 7221 501-276
Fax: +49 7221 501-480
E-mail: matthias.reinig@heel.com
Internet: www.heel.de / www.heel.com

Agency contact:

oha communication
Oliver Frederik Hahr
Director of Consulting and Public Relations
Phone: +49 711 5088 6582-1
Fax: +49 711 5088 6582-9
E-mail: oliver.hahr@oha-communication.com
Internet: www.oha-communication.com