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In 1999 the European Association for the Study of Diabetes (EASD) created its own Foundation: the European Foundation for the Study of Diabetes (EFSD), in order to support more actively diabetes research in Europe and to serve even more effectively the goals of EASD, which are: to encourage and support research in the field of diabetes, to rapidly diffuse acquired knowledge and to facilitate its application.

EFSD is a non-profit foundation, which seeks to support the highest quality research in Europe to find a cure for all types of diabetes and associated complications and to prevent their onset. EFSD aims to co-operate with other government and non-government agencies in order to increase funding in European diabetes research as a means of achieving its goals. Through its various activities and programmes, the Foundation also strives to enhance awareness in Europe of the severity and magnitude of this devastating disease. It is the ambition of the Executive Committee to develop EFSD as the main European funding agency for diabetes research.

The Foundation is closely related to EASD; it is governed exclusively by the Executive Committee of EASD, which itself is under the close supervision of the EASD Council and General Assembly. The Foundation operates on a strictly non-profit basis under the control of the relevant authorities in Germany.

**Partnerships bring over Euro 32 Million to European diabetes research**

In order to foster diabetes research at the highest level in Europe, EFSD has entered into innovative partnerships with other foundations and with industry. Through such partnerships, to date EFSD has committed over **Euro 32 million** to diabetes research in Europe.

Further information on EFSD Award Programmes is available on the web site of the Foundation: [www.EuropeanDiabetesFoundation.org](http://www.EuropeanDiabetesFoundation.org). An RFA (request for applications) for each programme is printed in *Diabetologia* (the official journal of EASD), and announced in the monthly e-mail sent to EASD members.

All applications are subject to rigorous peer review by a fully independent panel of leading experts in the field, and awards are based on scientific merit. Applications from non-profit organisations are welcome from Europe or any associated country.
European Foundation for the Study of Diabetes

EFSD

The Research Foundation of the European Association for the Study of Diabetes

GRANTS

2005
European Research Programme on Vascular Complications of Type 2 Diabetes

Background

Servier is a research-based pharmaceutical company with an established reputation in diabetes research, therapeutics and education. Present in 135 countries worldwide, the company is proud to maintain a number of tight long-term collaborations with key diabetes organisations.

Plan

EFSD and Servier have established a European programme on vascular complications of type 2 diabetes to encourage quality new projects aimed at advancing current knowledge in this domain. Applications are particularly welcome for projects that aim to clarify the molecular mechanisms of vascular complications in type 2 diabetes. These grants are intended to stimulate and accelerate European research into the vascular complications of type 2 diabetes.

Funding Instruments

Initially, Euro 1.1 million was made available for the 3 year period 2002 – 2004. In 2004 the EFSD/Servier Programme was extended, with an additional Euro 1 million made available for the period 2005 – 2007.

Awards in 2005

Based on the recommendations of the Review Committee, the Programme Board made the following awards of up to Euro 100,000 each in 2005:

Massimo Federici: Tor Vegata University - Rome, Italy
Luigi Gnudi: Guy’s Hospital – London, United Kingdom
EFSD
and
Eli Lilly and Company

European Diabetes Research Programme

Background

Eli Lilly and Company is a world leader in insulin production and also manufactures and markets a variety of other pharmaceutical products. The headquarters of Eli Lilly and Company is in Indianapolis, Indiana, USA.

Plan

The EFSD/Eli Lilly European Diabetes Research Programme is established within the frame of the Euro 2 million EFSD/Eli Lilly Fund. The goals of the Fund are: to promote increased European research in diabetes, support training and mobility programmes in diabetes research for young clinicians and scientists, and increase awareness of the burden of diabetes and its complications throughout Europe.

Funding Instruments

The EFSD/Lilly Diabetes Research Programme made available a total of Euro 1 million for the three year period 2003 - 2005. These funds are awarded as annual grants, each in an amount of up to Euro 100,000.

Awards in 2005

Based on the recommendations of the Review Committee, the Programme Board made the following awards of up to Euro 100,000 each in 2005:

Jens Brüning: Cologne University – Cologne, Germany
Sarah Ferber: Sheba Medical Center – Tel-Hashomer, Israel
Patrick Schrauwen: Maastricht University – Maastricht, The Netherlands
Peter Van Endert: Paris Necker Institute – Paris, France
EFSD
and
Novo Nordisk A/S

Programme in Diabetes Research

Background

Novo Nordisk A/S is a world leader in insulin and diabetes care and also manufactures and markets a variety of other pharmaceutical products. Headquartered in Denmark, Novo Nordisk has companies and information offices in more than 60 countries.

Plan

The EFSD/Novo Nordisk Programme in Diabetes Research will accept applications within any area of basic or clinical diabetes research. Those focusing on psycho-social aspects of diabetes management and on prevention will also be most welcome. All applications will be considered on an equal basis and judged on their intrinsic scientific merit.

Funding Instruments

Euro 2.1 million has been made available over 3 years for research in the framework of the Programme, which is carried out in Europe and its associated countries. Awards will be offered between 2004 and 2006 in the form of research grants of up to Euro 100,000 each.

Awards in 2005

Based on the recommendations of the Review Committee, the Programme Board made the following awards of up to Euro 100,000 each in 2005:

Per-Olof Berggren: Karolinska Institutet – Stockholm, Sweden
Per-Ola Carlsson: Uppsala University – Uppsala, Sweden
Miriam Cnop: Université Libre – Brussels, Belgium
Lena Eliasson: Lund University – Lund, Sweden
Karlhans Endlich: Heidelberg University – Heidelberg, Germany
Martin R. Larsen: Southern Denmark University – Odense, Denmark
Stellan Sandler: Uppsala University – Uppsala, Sweden
Programme in Type 1 Diabetes in Europe

Background
The mission of the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation International (JDRF) is to find a cure for diabetes and its complications through the support of research. JDRF was founded in 1970 by parents of children with diabetes who were convinced that the disease could be cured. JDRF gives more money to diabetes research than any other non-profit, non-governmental health agency in the world.

Novo Nordisk A/S is a world leader in insulin and diabetes care and also manufactures and markets a variety of other pharmaceutical products. Novo Nordisk has companies and information offices in more than 60 countries.

Plan
The partners have established the EFSD/JDRF/Novo Nordisk Programme in Type 1 Diabetes Research to foster multi-disciplinary research targeted at finding a cure for type 1 diabetes and its complications. The specific goals of the Programme are: to promote the highest quality of basic and clinical biomedical research in Europe and its associated countries applicable to type 1 diabetes, to expedite the practical application of scientific advances in our understanding of the aetiology, pathogenesis, treatment and prevention of type 1 diabetes and its complications, to encourage clinical translational research bridging the bench and the bedside, and to increase awareness about type 1 diabetes research throughout Europe.

Funding Instruments
Euro 2.25 million has been made available, from 2004 to 2006, for focused research grants in Europe and its associated countries. Up to eight grants, each of up to Euro 100,000, will be distributed each year.
Awards in 2005

Based on the recommendations of the Review Committee, the Programme Board made the following awards of up to Euro 100,000 each in 2005:

Dr Malin Flodström-Tullberg: Karolinska Institute - Stockholm, Sweden
Dr Kathleen Gillespie: Bristol University – Bristol, United Kingdom
Prof Harry Heimberg: Vrije University – Brussels, Belgium
Dr Elmar Jaeckel: Hannover University – Hannover, Germany
Dr Lorenzo Piemonti: San Raffaele Centre – Milan, Italy
Prof Flemming Pociot: Steno Center – Gentofte, Denmark
Prof Joanne Rasschaert: Libre University – Brussels, Belgium
EFSD
and
LifeScan

European Studies on Glucose Monitoring

Plan

In 2005 EFSD and LifeScan established a new Partnership for European Studies on Glucose Monitoring in the total amount of Euro 1.4 million. The EFSD/LifeScan Awards are intended to stimulate and accelerate European research aimed at improved understanding of the optimal use of glucose monitoring tools, both in type 1 and type 2 diabetes, with particular focus on the following: the impact of glucose monitoring on diabetes outcomes, the optimal/appropriate frequency of testing in different target populations (and the value of preprandial versus postprandial testing), new technologies in glucose monitoring and their clinical interest in diabetes practice, the impact of glucose monitoring on health economics, the physiology of alternative site testing and its impact on the use of glucose monitoring systems, informatics systems in support of glucose monitoring tools, glucose monitoring in children, and standardisation of HbA₁c measurement.

Funding Instruments

A total of Euro 1 million has been made available for the purpose of offering research grants of up to Euro 100,000 each over a period of five years from 2005 to 2009. In addition, Euro 400,000 will be made available to support studies on standardisation of HbA₁c measurement.

Awards in 2005

Based on the recommendations of the Review Committee, the Programme Board made the following awards of up to Euro 100,000 each in 2005:

Roman Hovorka: Cambridge University – Cambridge, United Kingdom
Scott Williamson: Dundee University – Dundee, United Kingdom
EFSD and Merck Sharp & Dohme (MSD)

European Study Programme on Beta Cell Function and Survival

Background

Merck & Co, Inc is a global research-driven pharmaceutical company. Merck discovers, develops, manufactures and markets a broad range of innovative products to improve human and animal health, directly and through its joint ventures. Merck Sharp & Dohme, or MSD, is the name Merck uses for conducting its business in all other countries outside the United States and Canada.

Plan

In 2005 EFSD and MSD established a new European Programme on Beta Cell Function and Survival in the total amount of Euro 1.4 million. These programme awards are intended to stimulate and accelerate European research into all aspects of beta cell function and survival, with particular emphasis on the following: increasing beta cell mass/function, mechanisms of glucose-stimulated insulin secretion, mechanisms of beta cell dysfunction, including beta cell glucotox- and lipotoxicity, non-invasive imaging of beta cells, and beta cell intermediary metabolism.

Funding Instruments

A total of Euro 1.4 million has been made available for the two year period 2005 – 2006 in the form of research grants of up to Euro 100,000 each.

Awards in 2005

Based on the recommendations of the Review Committee, the Programme Board made the following awards of up to Euro 100,000 each in 2005:

Prof Francesco Beguinot: Federico II University- Naples, Italy
Prof Peter Bergsten: Uppsala University – Uppsala, Sweden
Dr Marc Donath: Zurich University – Zurich, Switzerland
Dr Jean-Christophe Jonas: Louvain Catholic University – Brussels, Belgium
Dr Erik Renström: Lund University – Lund, Sweden
Dr Emmanuel Van Obberghen: University Hospital – Nice, France
EFSD
and
Pfizer Inc.

Resource Awards

Background

Pfizer is one of the world's leading healthcare companies, providing human and animal pharmaceuticals, as well as consumer products. With a portfolio that includes five of the world's 20 top-selling medicines, Pfizer is helping to improve the lives of people the world over.

Plan

The aim of these awards is to allow for development of resources for diabetes research, which will be available on an open-access basis or at nominal cost to all researchers in the field in Europe. Examples might be products for research (e.g. gene microarrays), biological material (e.g. cell lines), a database or co-ordination and integration of samples/data from ongoing multi-centre endeavours (e.g. genetic screening).

Funding Instruments

A total of Euro 400,000 was made available for 2004 and 2005, in order to fund annual awards in each of these years in a variable sum, depending upon the needs of the proposed resource. A further Euro 200,000 has now been made available for 2006, bringing the total commitment to Euro 600,000.

Award in 2005

Based on the recommendations of the Review Committee, the Programme Board made the following award in 2005:

Piero Marchetti: Cisanello Hospital – Pisa, Italy
European Foundation for the Study of Diabetes

EFSD

The Research Foundation of the European Association for the Study of Diabetes

NEW PARTNERSHIP PROGRAMMES

in 2006
EFSD and
Eli Lilly and Company

Newly extended
European Diabetes Research Fund

Background

Eli Lilly and Company is a world leader in diabetes care products and also manufactures and markets a variety of other pharmaceutical products. The headquarters of Eli Lilly and Company are in Indianapolis, Indiana, USA. Lilly is represented in 143 countries worldwide. The EFSD/Eli Lilly Fund is also supported in part by the Lilly Foundation.

Plan

This new EFSD/Eli Lilly Fund will commit up to Euro 1.8 million to European diabetes research for the 3 year period 2006-2008. This extends the original EFSD/Eli Lilly Fund with a new combined total of up to Euro 3.8 million. The goals of the Fund are to promote increased European research in diabetes, support training and mobility programmes in diabetes research for young clinicians and scientists, and increase awareness of the burden of diabetes and its complications throughout Europe.

Funding Instruments

Up to 4 grants, each in the amount of up to Euro 100,000 will be made available annually. In addition, the fund will make available two Fellowships annually (see page 22 of this report) as well as supporting the annual EASD Scientists Training Course and clinical Postgraduate Courses.

2006 Deadline

The deadline for applications for research grants in 2006 will be 21 September, with an anticipated award date of December 2006.
Clinical Research Grant
The Usefulness of CSII in Microalbuminuric Type 1 Diabetic Patients

Background
The earliest clinical manifestation of diabetic nephropathy is microalbuminuria. In people with type 1 diabetes, microalbuminuria can progress to overt nephropathy and even to end-stage renal disease. Hyperglycaemia has been shown to be a very important factor associated with the degree of glomerulopathy in incipient nephropathy, and improved metabolic control has been shown to arrest, and even reverse, glomerular changes.

Plan
The research project will test the usefulness of CSII in microalbuminuric type 1 diabetic patients and, in particular, investigate if real-time glucose sensing could further benefit this patient population by reducing post-prandial hyperglycaemia.

Funding Instruments
In 2006 a fixed sum for one grant of Euro 50,000 per annum for three consecutive years has been made available. Total funding for a single project will therefore amount to Euro 150,000.

2006 Deadline
The deadline for applications for research grants in 2006 will be 30 March, with an anticipated award date of May 2006.
EFSD
and
Amylin Pharmaceuticals Inc.

Paul Langerhans Grant
Integrated Physiology of the Entero-insular Axis and the Brain in Metabolic Homeostasis

Background

Amylin Pharmaceuticals Inc. is a biopharmaceutical company committed to improving lives through the discovery, development and commercialisation of innovative medicines. The company was founded in 1987 and since then has built a strong foundation on research and development. Amylin currently has two first in class diabetes drugs approved and marketed in the United States.

This grant honours the memory of Paul Langerhans, who discovered the islet cells of the pancreas.

Plan

EFSD and Amylin have established a new partnership for studies on integrated physiology of the entero-insular axis and the brain in metabolic homeostasis, to encourage new projects aimed at advancing current knowledge, and to stimulate and accelerate European research in this domain.

Funding Instruments

One grant of Euro 100,000 will be available in 2006.

2006 Deadline

The deadline for applications for research grants in 2006 will be 15 March, with an anticipated award date of May 2006.
European Programmes for the Study of:

“The Endocannabinoid System from Bench to Bedside”
and
“Management of Diabetes and Blood Glucose Abnormalities in Patients Suffering an Acute Cardiovascular Event”

Background

The sanofi-aventis Group is the world’s third largest pharmaceutical company, ranking number one in Europe. Backed by a world-class R&D organisation, sanofi-aventis is developing leading positions in seven major therapeutic areas, and produces several medicines to treat diabetes including insulin. Their commitment to diabetes medicine has been longstanding since 1923 and the involvement of Hoechst, a legacy company of sanofi-aventis.

Plan

EFSD and sanofi-aventis have created two European programmes for studies in the following areas:

- “The Endocannabinoid System from Bench to Bedside”, with a focus on the integration of central and peripheral control of fuel and energy metabolism and its role in the pathophysiology of multiple cardiometabolic risk factors, including insulin resistance and type 2 diabetes. This programme will support both basic and clinical research.

- “Management of diabetes and blood glucose abnormalities in patients suffering an acute cardiovascular event”, with support for clinical research in this field of study.

Funding Instruments

A total of Euro 2.1 million has been made available in 2006, to be administered as follows:
“The Endocannabinoid System from Bench to Bedside”: this programme will fund up to three grants, each of up to Euro 100,000, with either a clinical or basic research focus, as well as one grant for a clinical research project of up to Euro 300,000 over a period of three years.

“Management of diabetes and blood glucose abnormalities in patients suffering an acute cardiovascular event”: this clinical research programme will fund up to five grants, each of up to Euro 300,000.

2006 Deadline

The deadline for applications for research grants in 2006 will be 10 April for both programmes, with an anticipated award date of June 2006.
Plan
EFSD has established a new Grant Award for Collaborative Diabetes Research between China and Europe to encourage new projects aimed at advancing current knowledge in this domain and to support diabetes research. The EFSD Grant Award is intended to stimulate and accelerate the co-operation between researchers in China and Europe for research into diabetes.

The project should be carried out in China, but performed in co-operation with a European research centre.

Funding Instruments

In 2006 up to four grants, each of up to Euro 50,000, will be made available.

2006 Deadline

The deadline for applications for research grants in 2006 will be 5 May, with an anticipated award date of July 2006.
FELLOWSHIPS

Awarded in

2005
Research Fellowship in Diabetes and Metabolism

The objective of the EFSD/Eli Lilly Research Fellowship is to encourage research in the field of diabetes and metabolism and to promote excellence in medical education.

Research Fellowship in Diabetes Microvascular Complications

The EFSD/Eli Lilly Research Fellowship for diabetes microvascular complications relates specifically to this field, with particular emphasis on diabetic retinal disease.

One Fellowship of Euro 50,000 is awarded annually in each category out of the EFSD/Eli Lilly Fund. Application may be made by any paid-up member of EASD under the age of 40 years on the 1 January in the year of the Fellowship Award and with demonstrated ability in the field of diabetes research.

These Fellowships will continue to be available for the period 2006 – 2008 inclusive as part of the newly extended EFSD/Eli Lilly European Diabetes Research Fund.

In 2005 the awardees were:

**EFSD/Eli Lilly Research Fellowship in Diabetes and Metabolism**

Patricia Iozzo: Turku University - Turku, Finland

**EFSD/Eli Lilly Research Fellowship in Microvascular Complications**

Isabella Russo: Turin University - Turin, Italy
EFSD/AstraZeneca Fellowships

EFSD/AstraZeneca Research Fellowship in Islet Biology

The objective of the EFSD/AstraZeneca Research Fellowship is to encourage diabetes research. A specific focus area is chosen each year. For 2005, this was in the broad field of islet biology. Applications from candidates seeking to understand better the mechanism of beta cell gluco/lipotoxicity or the link between obesity, type 2 diabetes and islet function were particularly encouraged.

One Fellowship is awarded annually in the sum of Euro 50,000. Application may be made by any paid-up member of EASD under the age of 40 years on the 1 January in the year of the Fellowship Award and with demonstrated ability in the field of diabetes research.

In 2005 the awardee was:

Patrick Macdonald: Churchill Hospital – Oxford, United Kingdom

EFSD/AstraZeneca Clinical Travel Fellowships

The EFSD/AstraZeneca Clinical Travel Fellowships enable young clinicians from Europe and associated states to travel and stay at other laboratories in order to learn new clinical skills or techniques in clinical diabetes research. The duration of the stay should be suited to the training purpose and must not exceed two months.

Each Fellowship is in the amount of up to Euro 5,000 dependent on the length of stay, local costs and costs of travel.

In 2005 four Fellowships were awarded, as follows:

Antonia Ogbera – stayed at Munich City Hospital, Germany
Tommy Kyaw Tun – stayed at Queen’s University, United Kingdom
Felicia Anumah – stayed at Albert Luthuli Hospital, South Africa
Jessica Weiss – stayed at Joslin Diabetes Centre, United States of America
Professor Albert Ernst Renold (1923-1988) was the founding Secretary of the European Association for the Study of Diabetes (EASD) from 1965-1970 and later served as President of EASD from 1974-1977. He was also President of the International Diabetes Federation from 1979-1982. He played a major role in advancing diabetes research both in Europe and throughout the world. To commemorate the considerable debt owed to Albert Renold for his inspirational leadership, and to help the most promising young investigators acquire new skills in diabetes research by visiting another laboratory, EFSD has established the Albert Renold Fellowship programme.

EFSD Albert Renold Fellowships, each amounting to up to Euro 6,000, will enable young scientists to travel to and stay at other laboratories in order to learn new techniques in basic or clinical diabetes research. The duration of the stay should not exceed three months. Applications may be made by any paid-up member of EASD under the age of 35 years (PhD) or 40 years (MD/PhD with clinical training) on 1 January in the year of the award. EFSD/Albert Renold Fellowships are available throughout the year, and a decision is usually made within a few weeks of applying.

The EFSD Albert Renold Fellowship Programme is supported by an unrestricted educational grant from Merck Sharp & Dohme (MSD).

In 2005 the following Fellowships were awarded:

Afkoghene Rita Isiavwe – stayed at Groote Schur Hospital, South Africa
Gabriela da Silva Xavier – stayed at Universitaire de Paris, France
Elena Berrone – stayed at Heidelberg University, Germany
Akinola Olusola Dada – stayed at Glasgow Western Infirmary, United Kingdom
Adekemi Olabisi Coker – stayed at Newcastle Diabetes Centre, United Kingdom
Maryanna Gorshunska – stayed at Peninsula Medical School, United Kingdom
Manish Bharara – stayed at Union College, United States of America
Tunji Olugbenga Oyewole – stayed at Warwick Medical School, United Kingdom
Christine Kusminski – stayed at Warwick University, United Kingdom
Kaushik Pandit - stayed at Lund University, Sweden
John Andrew Pospisilik – stayed at Université Paul Sabatier, France
Petra Fundova – stayed at the Bartholin Institute, Denmark
Jan Ehses – stayed at the Institute of Molecular Biotechnology, Austria
NEW FELLOWSHIPS

in 2006
EFSD Travel Fellowships for Young Researchers from China

The objective of the EFSD Research Fellowships is to encourage research in the field of diabetes and metabolism and to promote excellence in medical education. Applicants should have demonstrated their ability in the field of diabetes research.

Two Travel Fellowships amounting to Euro 25,000 each will be awarded to a successful applicant from China. This amount is meant to support travel and living expenses for a period of time ranging from 3 to 6 months, to be spent in a European laboratory, which will receive one fifth of the fellowship award to cover the associated expenses.

The deadline for application receipt is 5 May 2006, with an anticipated award date of July 2006.

The EFSD Travel Fellowships were made possible by a generous charitable donation by Bristol-Meyers-Squibb (BMS).
EFSD Review Committee Members

EFSD is most grateful to the following colleagues who served in on the various review committees of the 2005 partnership programmes:

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<th>Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>Stefanie Amiel</td>
<td>UK</td>
<td>Peter Jones</td>
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<td>Klaus Badenhoop</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>Mikael Knip</td>
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<td>Angelika Bierhaus</td>
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<td>Maarku Laakso</td>
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<td>Polly Bingley</td>
<td>UK</td>
<td>Åke Lernmark</td>
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<td>Christian Boitard</td>
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<td>Pierre Maechler</td>
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<td>Thomas Pieber</td>
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<td>Bart Roep</td>
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<td>Giancarlo Viberti</td>
<td>UK</td>
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<td>Rury Holman</td>
<td>UK</td>
<td>Antonio Vidal-Puig</td>
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EFSD EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE and ADMINISTRATION

Executive Committee:
President: Prof E. Ferrannini - Italy
Vice President: Prof E. Standl - Germany
Vice President: Prof H. Wallberg-Henriksson – Sweden/Prof U. Smith - Sweden
Honorary Secretary: Prof D.L. Eizirik - Belgium
Honorary Treasurer: Prof J. Škrha - Czech Republic
Editor in Chief - Diabetologia: Prof E. Gale – United Kingdom
Chairman PGESC: Prof B. Feldt-Rasmussen – Denmark/Prof T. Pieber - Austria

Chairman, Advisory Board: Prof P.A. Halban – Switzerland
Senior Advisor: Prof J. Nerup – Denmark
Members: Prof R. Heine – The Netherlands
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Prof M. Walker – United Kingdom

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EFSD is registered as a non-profit Foundation in Düsseldorf, Germany under registration number: 15.2.1-St.767
and at the Inland Revenue in Düsseldorf, Germany under tax number: 106/5744/1547

The EFSD Accounts for the fiscal year 2004 were submitted to the German Inland Revenue. Following detailed
evaluation, a Certificate was issued endorsing the status of EFSD as a charity. This Certificate is held on file at the
EFSD office and a copy will be made available upon request.