



## Programme description: **Unite2CureType1** *Promising Solutions for Patients with Type 1 Diabetes*

### Background

The Dutch health organisations Foundation DON (in Dutch: 'stichting Diabetes Onderzoek Nederland') and the Dutch Diabetes Research Foundation (in Dutch: 'Diabetes Fonds') are once again joining forces to cure type 1 diabetes. Thanks to numerous donations from people with type 1 diabetes, their friends and relatives and the public at large, we are able to finance scientific research that should ultimately lead to the dream of many: a world without type 1 diabetes.

Type 1 diabetes is a serious disease and a growing burden on society. It is one of the most common chronic diseases among children in the Netherlands. More than 100,000 Dutch people are affected by this disease. Worldwide there are approximately 30 million people with type 1 diabetes. This disease has a major impact on the lives of patients and their families. Daily, people with diabetes need to monitor their glucose levels, food intake, activity pattern, medication and insulin requirements. But even with optimal self-management, there is always the risk of developing complications such as the loss of eyesight, kidney failure and heart problems.

### Purpose

In order to achieve promising solutions for patients with type 1 diabetes, we aim to support research at the frontiers of science. In recent years, Foundation DON and the Dutch Diabetes Research Foundation have jointly invested in several research projects focusing on curing or preventing type 1 diabetes. With the current programme we aim to strengthen and extend these promising research lines. Therefore, we invite excellent research proposals on trending topics in the field of type 1 diabetes such as: immunotherapy, delay onset of type 1 diabetes, prevention of loss of beta cells, (re)generation of beta cells and the link between diabetes type 1 and the gut.

The programme Unite2CureType1 aims to stimulate scientists to think outside the box, initiate (new) international collaborations and come up with innovative basic research ideas that have the potential to change the lives of people with type 1 diabetes by finding a cure, and ultimately prevent type 1 diabetes in full. The research must be focused on working towards the patient: to create impact for people with type 1 diabetes.

We aim to finance one research proposal with a maximum of € 1,000,000 for a maximum duration of five years.



## For whom?

Type 1 diabetes researchers working within a Dutch academic centre, university (of applied sciences) or non-profit research institute can apply for a grant within this programme. Through this programme, we want to encourage (new) international collaborations between the Netherlands and international researchers. One of the criteria is therefore that the established Dutch scientist will collaborate with a colleague from one of the countries identified in an extensive hot spot analysis executed by the Dutch Diabetes Research Foundation in 2017. Besides all countries within the [European Union](#), these include: Japan, India, Australia, South-Korea, Israel, Canada, Brazil and China.

## Procedure

To apply for the programme Unite2CureType1 **registration is mandatory**. To register, the registration form needs to be completed and submitted before the deadline of **Tuesday February 18th, 13:00 CET**. Required information includes general information on the applicants and collaborators, a provisional abstract of your proposed research and a list of potential international reviewers.

To complete the application process you need to submit the application form. The deadline for the electronic version (Word file) of the application is **Monday March 9th, 13:00 CET**. One hard copy of the application with signatures needs to be sent that day. Foundation DON and Dutch Diabetes Research Foundation will check whether the application meets the criteria of the programme. If a large number of applications is received, Foundation DON and Dutch Diabetes Research Foundation are at liberty to make a pre-selection of all applications.

Up to five independent international researchers with expertise on the specific topic are invited to review the application. The review will be shared with the applicant, while the reviewers will remain anonymous. All applicants are invited to write a rebuttal. In May, the members of the joint Advisory Board of Foundation DON and Dutch Diabetes Research Foundation will review and discuss the applications, the international reviews and the rebuttals. The Advisory Board will share its views and recommendations with the Executive Board of Foundation DON and the Executive Board of the Dutch Diabetes Research Foundation. Based on this advice, the respective Executive Boards decide which application will be granted.

Time schedule	
<b>Tuesday February 18th, 13:00 CET</b>	<b>Deadline registration</b>
<b>Monday March 9th, 13:00 CET</b>	<b>Deadline full application</b>
March/April	Review of the application by international experts
Beginning of April	Reviews to applicants
<b>Tuesday April 28th, 13:00 CET</b>	<b>Deadline rebuttal</b>
May	Meeting Advisory Board
End of May/Beginning of June	Decision Executive Boards Foundation DON and Dutch Diabetes Research Foundation
<b>Saturday June 20th (Amsterdam area)</b>	<a href="#">Fundraising Event of Foundation DON (video)</a> For this event the granted applicant is asked for his/her participation in a video and/or presence during the event. => Mark this date in your calendar!



## Review criteria

It is important to state that working towards clinical trials may have a preference. The members of the Advisory Board and the international reviewers will evaluate the applications based on the following criteria.

- ✓ *Relevance*: People with type 1 diabetes will benefit directly or in the near future from the proposed work.
- ✓ *Significance*: The research will make an important and novel contribution to knowledge in the type 1 diabetes field.
- ✓ *Approach*: The conceptual framework(s), designs, methods and analyses are properly developed, well integrated and appropriate.
- ✓ *Collaboration*: The plans for collaboration are sufficient.
- ✓ *Feasibility*: The likelihood that the proposed work can be accomplished by the investigators.
- ✓ *Budget*: The budget is appropriate for the proposed plans.
- ✓ *Innovative*: The proposal addresses innovative concepts, approaches or methods.
- ✓ *Implementation*: The plans are promising in terms of future implementation.
- ✓ *Power calculation*: If needed a detailed power calculation is included.
- ✓ *Knowledge utilisation*: An action plan to allow the outcomes of the project to benefit the potential knowledge users, such as patients, healthcare professionals, companies and other academic disciplines is included.

## Conditions for writing a proposal

Foundation DON and the Dutch Diabetes Research Foundation evaluate the applications based on the following conditions. Applications **not** meeting these conditions will be **excluded** from the procedure.

- The registration form has been completed and submitted before the appropriate deadline;
- The application form is filled out completely and correctly and the deadline is not exceeded;
- This study is a new project and is not being carried out elsewhere;
- If a clinical study is included, it needs to be performed under the surveillance and responsibility of an academic institute, university (of applied sciences) or non-profit research institute;
- The main applicant is affiliated to a Dutch academic centre, university (of applied sciences) or non-profit research institute;
- The main applicant needs to collaborate within the programme with a colleague from one of the countries identified in an extensive hot spot analysis executed by the Dutch Diabetes Research Foundation in 2017. Besides all countries within the [European Union](#), these include: Japan, India, Australia, South-Korea, Israel, Canada, Brazil and China.



- The personnel costs meet the [guidelines of the Association of Universities in the Netherlands](#);
- The maximum amount requested should not exceed € 1,000,000.
- On Saturday June 20th, the granted applicant is asked for his/her presence during the [Fundraising Event of Foundation DON](#) and participation in a video.

## Contact information

Send your electronic copy of the application to [research@diabetesfonds.nl](mailto:research@diabetesfonds.nl) **and** send a hard copy of the application to:

Diabetes Fonds  
Kennis & Innovatie  
Stationsplein 139  
3818 LE Amersfoort

For further questions or remarks please contact dr. Joya Nahon

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