



International Network of VENous Thromboembolism Clinical Research Networks

## DRAGONS' DEN COMPETITION

Deadline to Submit: June 8<sup>th</sup>, 2018

### Rationale

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Clinical studies, and especially randomized controlled trials (RCT), frequently require international collaboration and participation from multiple clinical centers to meet sample size requirements in a timely manner. Conducting clinical research in multiple countries offers the advantages of faster participant recruitment and study completion, and greater generalizability of results.

**INVENT aspires to be the international driver and accelerator for patient-oriented, investigator-initiated clinical venous thromboembolism (VTE) research and to be the key facilitator for international collaboration among VTE clinical investigators.**

### Competition

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INVENT will be hosting a public competition for INVENT study endorsement at the International Society on Thrombosis and Haemostasis (ISTH) SSC meeting in Dublin, Ireland. In addition, one endorsed study will be offered a \$35,000 International Collaboration grant.

Dragons' Den Session

**Date: Wednesday, July 18<sup>th</sup>, 2018**

**Time: 18:30 – 20:30**

**Location: ISTH Congress, Dublin Ireland; Room: Liffey Hall 1**

Applicants will be invited (see 'Eligibility' and 'Application Process' below) to present a proposal of their research study to potentially be endorsed by INVENT network and/or be awarded an international collaboration grant. Each applicant will have 5 to 8 minutes to present their proposal. After each presentation, the proposed study will be probed by **three INVENT Dragons** with pointed questions geared towards determining if the proposed study is well designed, feasible, and will be practice-changing. Simultaneously, the audience, using an interactive polling system, will rate each proposed study on its potential for changing clinical practice. After the final presentation, the audience will be asked to vote for the project that is most likely practice-changing.

**The winner of the competition will be awarded a \$35,000 grant intended to help the project expand into multiple countries and facilitate international collaboration.**



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### Eligibility

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**Applicants:** the proposed study must be supported/developed by members of two or more INVENT-member organizations. Applicants must be committed to international collaboration, ethical research practices, and fair recognition of co-investigators' research contributions.

**Study stage:** research at any stage of development is eligible for endorsement by the INVENT Network. Investigators may apply for approval of a research idea or preliminary protocol, a study with a fully-developed protocol, or one that is actively recruiting participants.

**Research design:** academically-driven clinical research studies that are seeking to recruit participants in multiple countries.

**Competing studies:** ideally, the proposed study is unique and does not replicate or compete with an ongoing study. Applicants are expected to make efforts to identify other studies that are in progress that are seeking to answer the same or a similar research question. Justification for undertaking a similar study must be provided. Studies currently endorsed by INVENT are not eligible for this competition.

### Application Process

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An INVENT Council Member sends the INVENT Chair an application package consisting of the following documents:

- 1) A completed [INVENT Study Approval Application Form](#)
- 2) A one-page proposal for the study

**Deadline for Applications: June 8<sup>th</sup>, 2018**

Please send complete applications to [fakhan@ohri.ca](mailto:fakhan@ohri.ca) (cc. [mrodger@toh.ca](mailto:mrodger@toh.ca))

### Study Endorsement

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All studies presented at the Dragons' Den competition will be subjected to the INVENT study approval process intended to identify studies that align with the Network's aspirations and which the Network will endorse. The formal review process (see '**Review and Approval Process for Study Endorsement**' below) provides a mechanism for INVENT Council Members to jointly determine which applicants will be invited to Dragons' Den competition, and which studies the network will eventually promote and support, as well as select for an international collaboration grant.

### Review and Approval Process for Study Endorsement

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1. The INVENT Staff and Chair conduct an initial review for completeness and clarity of application
2. The INVENT Chair circulates the application via email to Council for review and comments
  - a. The proposal may be sent back to proponents for refinement/comments/questions prior to invitation to present at Dragons' Den competition



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- b. Applicants requesting approval of a research idea or preliminary proposal are expected to provide additional study details once the proposal is developed. Studies that have already received approval will not require formal review again.
3. Eligible applicants may be invited to present at the Dragons' Den competition. INVENT reserves the right to limit the number of proposals invited to participate in the Dragon's Den event and hence be eligible for the International Collaboration grant. However, all complete and eligible proposals will be considered for INVENT endorsement.
4. At an INVENT Council Meeting to follow the Dragon's Den session, a vote will be conducted to establish support for each proposed study and approval for calling it an **INVENT endorsed study**. A top ranked study, will be offered a single \$35,000 International Collaboration prize.
5. All Council members may vote, in person or by proxy, to approve a study, regardless of their involvement or interest in the study. For the voting process, quorum is 30% (in person or by proxy) and a majority vote in one where more than half of the members of Council present and voting vote in the affirmative.

### INVENT Support of Endorsed Studies

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1. International Collaboration grant awardee will be announced via INVENT's communications channels.
2. A letter of endorsement will be provided (upon request, the letter may be tailored to include in a funding application, etc.)
3. A study summary will be posted on the INVENT website
4. The study will be promoted to members via email and social media tools
5. Endorsed studies will have access to INVENT resources; e.g. use of adjudication platform at "academic rate"
6. INVENT Council Members will actively promote endorsed studies within their national networks.