

## **Backgrounder Novo Nordisk Haemophilia Foundation (NNHF)**

### **Improving haemophilia care and treatment in the developing world**

NNHF was created in 2005 as a sign of Novo Nordisk's commitment to social responsibility within haemophilia care. The Foundation was established to address the significant need for improving haemophilia treatment in developing countries where haemophilia is not a healthcare priority and many patients go undiagnosed or are inadequately treated. Consequently, life expectancy for people with haemophilia is low and treatment with clotting factors is suboptimal.

NNHF programmes include awards, fellowships and development projects for patient education, doctor, nurse and laboratory staff training, as well as setting up diagnostic facilities and creating patient registries.

NNHF works in developing<sup>1</sup> or European transition countries<sup>2</sup> where some haemophilia treatment is already present which forms the basis for sustainable projects.

NNHF cooperates with partners in these countries, such as health ministries and other healthcare authorities or institutions, non-governmental and patient organisations, healthcare professionals and other foundations.

Typical examples of NNHF programmes funding are:

Awareness creation, Awards: e.g.

- Provide educational material for health care professionals, institutions and authorities
- Educate patients, families, other community members and authorities
- Perform national haemophilia diagnosis programmes
- Create haemophilia registry

Capacity building, Fellowships: e.g.

- Improve education and optimise treatment organisation
- Train doctors, nurses, lab technicians on-site
- Perform field training in developed countries through fellowships
- Grant haemophilia awards

Diagnosis & Registries: e.g.

- Establishment of labs with trained staff
- Screening & diagnosis
- Databases

NNHF grants up to four fellowships per year with a value of CHF 25,000 each. A fellowship is granted to health care professionals in haemophilia care from developing countries to gain professional medical/laboratory/nursing training in a developed country, whereby the emphasis is clinical. Basic scientific research will not be supported.

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<sup>1</sup> According to the OECD Development Assistance Committee (DAC) list of countries.

<sup>2</sup> Countries which recently joined or will join the EU.

The Foundation also makes an annual NNHF Award to the value of CHF 16,000. This price will be awarded to any person who has made an outstanding activity which has resulted in an improvement of haemophilia care in the developing world. The award winner can be a caregiver, an allied health care professional involved in the care of persons with haemophilia, a social worker, or a lay person such as a patient, teacher as well as any other stakeholder of the haemophilia community.

NNHF is non-profit entity under Swiss Foundation Law, located in Zurich, Switzerland, and funds programmes to improve haemophilia care, treatment and awareness in the developing world. The Foundation is governed by the Foundation Council, the President of which is the chief operating officer (COO) of Novo Nordisk A/S. The Council also comprises the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and President of Novo Nordisk A/S, worldwide renowned external experts in the field of haemophilia, and Novo Nordisk executives drawn from the company's global management experience. The Council convenes at least two times a year.

NNHF operates on donations from its benefactor, Novo Nordisk A/S, which are granted annually for an indefinite period of time. Apart from the contributions from Novo Nordisk A/S, NNHF accepts additional funds from other sources subject to approval by the Foundation Council.

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*Revised 12 January 2009*