



THE EUROPEAN COLLEGE OF VETERINARY SURGEONS RESEARCH GRANTS

Who is the ECVS ?

Mission Statement / Research at ECVS



Founded in **1991**, the European College of Veterinary Surgeons (ECVS) has advanced the art and science of veterinary surgery for over three decades, with the principle aim of improving animal health and welfare. At the core of this effort has been the establishment and monitoring of postgraduate training programmes in specialist animal surgery and ultimately through the certification of successful individuals as Members of the European College of Veterinary Surgeons; and thus as a certified specialist. The college has grown from its humble beginnings into **one of the largest colleges** recognised by the European Board of Veterinary Specialisation (EBVS), with more than 1'000 Diplomates and over 400 Residents-in-training.

During this time, ECVS has accepted and welcomed new training programmes throughout Europe as well as Israel, Australia, New Zealand, Hong Kong, Saudi Arabia, Canada and South Africa.

The College has developed a strong committee structure, populated by dedicated ECVS members who volunteer their services, and who all work towards delivering a **high-quality** surgical specialist "product" through appropriate training and assessment. This is done in a sustainable way that creates a self-perpetuating culture of excellence through skills development, scientific discovery, and continuous professional development.

The ECVS Board of Regents and Research Committee work together to fulfil our goal to support and finance where possible, advancement of surgical knowledge and expertise through valid and peer reviewed clinical research. This is consistent with our goal of advancing surgical expertise and improving patient care and animal welfare.

ECVS provide **Resident research grants** to Large and Small Animal Residents to enable surgeons in training to conduct sound scientific research. In 2023, we expanded the grant programme to include a dedicated **research grant programme for ECVS Diplomates**. Many ECVS Diplomates do not stop their research activity when they finish their training but increasingly continue to carry out clinical and basic science research programmes. Allowing access to research funds for our Diplomates is an important way in which we support the development of **clinical and scientific excellence** in our community.

Since 2013 we have funded 26 resident research projects and 4 Diplomate projects with more applications being received every year. All applications are peer reviewed for scientific rigour and ethical standards.

Our ambition

Promoting a high standard of clinical research is expensive and increasingly, centres of excellence have to turn to outside funding for research programmes. ECVS aims to provide a validated, peer reviewed, ethical source of funding to enable more researchers to have the opportunity to complete and disseminate their research work, for the benefit of the entire veterinary community.



Why sponsor the ECVS?

Advancing knowledge is one of the core values of ECVS and the College will continue to provide support to research. However external sponsoring of research grants is the only way to achieve our goal to increase research funding. Linking with centres of clinical excellence performing high-quality research should appeal to sponsors.

What are the benefits for our sponsors?

The sponsors will be named on our website during the grant application period, in the annual business meeting presentations and in our newsletter when we call for applications and announce grant recipients. Links to the sponsor will be easily accessible to visitors on our website. However, as individual projects are not linked to a specific sponsor, any presentations or publications arising from those research projects, the funding source will be acknowledged as the ECVS Diplomate or Resident Research grant programme.

Why are we reaching out?

We are approaching you because of your dedication to the advancement of veterinary care and commitment to excellence and clinical research. This is an opportunity to sponsor ECVS-approved research programmes for Residents or Diplomates.



The European College of Veterinary Surgeons (ECVS) actively supports surgical research through a range of targeted funding mechanisms. These programmes are designed to foster research at all levels of academic and clinical progression, encompassing basic, applied, and translational surgical research. Funding is available to Residents, Diplomates, and researchers pursuing doctoral-level studies or working in clinical and laboratory-based research environments.

ECVS Research Grant Sponsoring Levels

Levels are cumulative, allowing sponsors and donors to build up through the levels

	Principle sponsor level (>€25'000)	Diplomate Research Grant level (€15'000 - €24'999)	Resident Research Grant level (€7'500 - €14'999)	Seed level (< €7'500)
Logo and link on ECVS website	✓ prime position	✓	✓	
Mentioning on ECVS website (list of donors)	✓	✓	✓	✓
Mentioning in ECVS newsletter in all communication about research grants (sent to > 1'500 recipients, Diplomates and Residents)	✓	✓	✓	
Ad in ECVS newsletter	1/1 page			
"ECVS Research Partner" banner to be mounted at ASM exhibition stand	"Principle sponsor" banner	"Diplomate Research Grant" sponsor banner	"Resident Research Grant" sponsor poster	
Research partner banner (online ad) on e-congress platform	✓ (higher number/frequency)	✓	✓	
Mentioning and thank you at Business Meeting	✓	✓		
Mentioning and thank you at Resident Forums			✓	
Discount on scientific session sponsoring at ASM	15%	10%	5%	

Resident Research Grants

Resident grants are awarded to support original research projects conducted during the ECVS residency surgical training programme, typically culminating in the major publication required for board certification. Projects should be designed to be completed within 12 to 18 months, ensuring sufficient time for data analysis, manuscript preparation, and submission. All forms of surgical research—basic, applied, and translational—are eligible for funding.

Diplomate Research Grants

These grants are intended to support research led by ECVS Diplomates. Funding may be used to support complete research programmes or to supplement other grants in order to extend the scientific scope of ongoing work. As with Resident grants, all domains of surgical research are eligible. Diplomate grant calls are issued on an annual basis.

Doctoral and Clinical/Basic Science Grants

Grants in this category are designated for larger, more ambitious research programmes, typically involving doctoral (PhD) studies or collaborations between clinical and basic science investigators. Projects should include a significant component of laboratory-based (bench-top) research. PhD applicants must provide a detailed research proposal outlining the scientific rationale, methodology, and anticipated timeline. Applications from clinical or basic scientists should include a clear description of each work package, with defined objectives, methods, and deliverables. Funding availability for these grants is determined by the annual research budget and may not follow a fixed application cycle.

Grant Reporting Requirement

All recipients of ECVS research grants are required to submit an annual progress report to the ECVS Research Committee, outlining scientific progress, use of funds, and future project milestones.

Previous Grant Recipients

Recipients of the ECVS Resident Research Grant

2025

Anika de Witt

University of Pretoria, South Africa
Quantification of the degree of osteoarthritis in dogs: The use of thromboelastography to test the viscoelastic properties of synovial fluid

Large Animal

Karina Kalka

University of Copenhagen, Denmark
Investigation into the anatomy and imaging features of the equine parotid duct and development of less- or minimally invasive techniques for its examination and treatment of pathology

2024

Small Animal

Owen Glenn

University of Edinburgh, UK
Rapid identification of antimicrobial resistant bacteria from surgical site infections using nanopore-based metagenomic sequencing

Large Animal

Daria Debald

University of Vienna, Austria
Physiological volumes of frequently injected equine joints and intraarticularly achieved Triamcinolone concentration

2023

Small Animal

Mathieu Monard

TRIOVet Rennes, France
A princeps study: Is CINSARC signature (a gene-based signature) efficient predicting outcome of sarcoma bearing dogs?

Large Animal

Thimo Maurer

University of Berne, Switzerland
Accuracy of computer-assisted drilling in the equine cervical spine when using a purpose-built frame to stabilise the neck - an experimental cadaveric study

2022

Small Animal

Emily Vrijzen

University of Ghent, Belgium
Anatomical study of the common carotid arteries and cerebral arterial blood supply in cats: can common carotid arteries be ligated in cats?

Large Animal

none awarded

2021

Small Animal

Philippe Franklin

University of Cambridge, UK
Comparison of rhinoplasty techniques for the treatment of stenotic nares in brachycephalic dogs

Large Animal

Hanna Haardt

University of Ghent, Belgium
Third Generation sequencing - a new modality to identify bacteria in equine septic synovitis cases

Alexander Shanklin

University of Liverpool, UK
The impact of sampling protocol on microbiological culture and antimicrobial susceptibility testing and how these results influence antimicrobial selection in horses with traumatic wounds and surgical site infections.

2020

Small Animal

Kadie O'Byrne

University of Melbourne, Australia
Biomechanical evaluation of tenorrhaphy in canine gastrocnemius tendon

Raya Atamna

Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel
Quantification of the beneficial effect of laryngeal stenting in clinical cases of laryngeal collapse

Large Animal

Ariane Campos Schweitzer

Ecole Nationale Vétérinaire d'Alfort
Assessment of cricoarytenoideus dorsalis (CAD) muscle reinnervation using the spinal accessory nerve (SAN) in horses with induced recurrent laryngeal neuropathy (RLN)

2019

Small Animal

Joanna McCagherty

University of Edinburgh, UK
Use of the MolecuLight i:X to detect clinically relevant wound bacteria, improve culture sensitivity and monitor treatment response

Large Animal

Nicole Verhaar

Tierärztliche Hochschule Hannover, Germany.
The effect of ischemic post-conditioning (IPoC) in an experimental model of equine jejunal ischemia

2018

Small Animal

Claudia Zindl

University of Cambridge, UK
Use of Surgical Navigation to Improve the Accuracy and Precision of Acetabular Cup Placement in Canine Total Hip Replacement



Large Animal

Eva de Clercq

University of Ghent, Belgium
The anti-bacterial activity of different wound dressings currently used in equine wound management: a comparative ex vivo study.

2017

Small Animal

Anna Cronin

University of Cambridge, UK
Ex vivo evaluation of a pre-tied ligature loop for lung lobectomy

Andreas Hermann

University of Berne, Switzerland
Comparison of the biomechanical effects of 4 different ventral spinal cervical surgical procedures (ventral slot, slanted slot, inverted cone technique and fenestration) on the canine C4-C5 vertebral motion unit

Large Animal

Nicole Schulz

Freie Universität Berlin, Germany
Evaluation of range of motion of adjacent segments after cervical fusion of C3/4 in the horse using 3D and 4D Computed Tomography

2016

Small Animal

Anna Nutt

University of Bristol, UK
Is muscle sparing thoracotomy associated with less postoperative pain and limb dysfunction than standard thoracotomy?

Annika Koenraad

University of Ghent, Belgium
Negative pressure wound therapy using Prevena to prevent seroma formation after limb amputation in large breed dogs

2015

Small Animal

Danielle Abrahams

Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel
Structures contributing to the stability of the coxofemoral joint in dogs

Large Animal

Rachel Tucker

Royal Veterinary College, UK
Novel Predictors of tendon healing

2014

Small Animal

Anneleen Spillebeen

University of Utrecht, Netherlands
Sonicision ultrasonic dissector versus Ligasure bipolar vessel sealer for laparoscopic ovariectomy in dogs

Large Animal

Claire Robinson

University of Liverpool, UK
Serum amyloid A and D-lactate concentrations in synovial fluid as diagnostic and prognostic indicators for septic synovitis in horses



Recipients of the ECVS Diplomate Research Grant

2025

Small Animal

Joshua Milgram

Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel
Characterisation of the effect of aging and lameness on structure and biomechanical properties of the craniomedial aspect of the proximal femoral diaphysis in dogs

Large Animal

Antonia Troillet

University of Leipzig, Germany
Sonographic, Magnetic Resonance Imaging, and Histological Evaluation of the Dorsal Joint Capsule Duplication (Synovial Pad) in the Metacarpophalangeal Joint of Adult Warmblood Horses: Insights into Morphology and Its Relationship to Joint Disease

2024

Small Animal

Simona Vincenti

University of Berne, Switzerland
Investigation on the specific tropism of autologous gadolinium-marked extracellular vesicles towards gliomas in dogs

Large Animal

Nora Biermann

University of Vienna, Austria
Exploring hidden consequences of antimicrobial use and its implications for hospital infection control: Antibiotic resistant bacteria in hospitalized horses and environmental contamination

Who is the ECVS Research Committee and what is their role ?

The ECVS Research Committee consists of Diplomates who are invited by the Board of Regents for their experience and knowledge of clinical research. The current composition of the committee is shown on our website.

www.ecvs.org

Our Research Committee members are all well-established Diplomates with a keen interest and track record of high quality clinical and /or basic research.

All applications to the research grants are anonymised and presented to the research committee for evaluation. The project's aims, ethical considerations, hypothesis and costs as well as other fund sources are studied closely by the committee prior to choosing the recipients each year.

The process is objective and transparent ensuring that there can be no concern as to conflicts of interest.

Contact us for more
information on ECVS
Research Grant sponsoring

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