

ISHLT/ICCAC VAD COORDINATOR CAREER DEVELOPMENT AWARD

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Optimizing outcomes of patients who have received a mechanical circulatory support device as treatment for advanced heart failure and increasing access to this life saving therapy are shared goals of ISHLT, ICCAC, and Medtronic. Professional growth and development of VAD coordinators is paramount to ensuring the MCS community has the capacity to provide this advanced therapy.

Technological developments have ushered in an era of rapid expansion in the number of VAD patients and programs, the length of time patients are on support, and the professional opportunities VAD coordinators have within the MCS community. A result of this rapid growth is a shortage of trained, expert VAD coordinators around the world.

Professional development is a key element of establishing and maintaining a robust VAD coordinator professional base and of developing an attractive career path that will inspire talented professionals to join and contribute to VAD teams for many years.

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Purpose:

Further VAD Coordinators understanding of

- 1) care of VAD patients in both the inpatient and outpatient setting from referral through post VAD outpatient care
- 2) resource utilization (e.g., hospital length of stay, hospital readmission and clinic visits)
- 3) patient/caregiver adjustment to life with a VAD and outcomes

with the goal of enhancing patient/caregiver decision making and improving the VAD experience, patient survival, and patient and caregiver quality of life.

Award Amount:

One award bestowed annually in an amount of up to **\$20,000**

Application:

Opens March 3, 2020 on ISHLT website -

<https://ishlt.org/grants-awards/grants-scholarships/ishlt-iccac-vad-coordinator-award>

Deadline for submitting application is May 15, 2020

Award decision June, 2020

The ISHLT Grants and Awards Committee and Officers of ICCAC will meet via conference call to select one mutually agreed-upon award recipient for that year.

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Funding Decision:

Funding will be prioritized toward projects focused on quality improvement and/or research.

Funding decisions will be based on clinical/scientific merit and clinical/scientific interest relevant to improving VAD patient care and VAD patient/caregiver outcomes.

Funded projects are intended to address gaps in knowledge on a local, national, and/or international level.

Eligibility Requirements:

- Applicant must be a VAD Coordinator with at least 2 years' experience in that role at an active VAD program
- Applicant must be a member in good standing of ISHLT and ICCAC at the time of application and throughout the period of funding.
- Applicant's research/quality improvement project mentor/supervisor must be a member in good standing of ISHLT at the time of application and throughout the period of funding.
- The research project must be conducted at an accredited medical university, hospital/clinic, or other medical institution.
- No awards will be made for projects that receive overlapping funding from other internal or external sources or that duplicate other projects already funded.