

## 2012 POSTER COMPETITION – Call for Abstracts

### COMPETITION GUIDELINES

**Application Deadline: Monday, December 12, 2011**

AllerGen's Annual Poster Competition provides an opportunity for trainees and new professionals to share their research, exchange ideas and network with researchers, clinicians, policy and decision-makers, health care administrators, representatives from business, industry and government, as well as other trainees.

The top two posters in each Research group and the two highest ranking undergraduate posters following the lightning round and poster adjudication will receive certificates of achievement and cash prizes.

Trainees and ASNPN members are eligible to receive reimbursement for travelling and accommodation\* expenses in accordance with AllerGen's travel policy. (\*double occupancy)

Expenses must be submitted no later than March 31, 2012 in order to be eligible for reimbursement.

Poster participants are responsible for paying their own conference registration fee. The fee is an eligible expense within the AllerGen Research Project budget, subject to Principal Investigator approval.

#### **Objectives**

- Increase the visibility of research pertinent to AllerGen's mission
- Advance the achievement of AllerGen's mission to radically improve the quality of life for allergic/immune disease sufferers by conducting research that leads to new diagnostic tests, better medications and more effective public policies
- Increase opportunities for trainees to gain career related training experiences that facilitate future employment in allergy, asthma and anaphylaxis research

#### **AllerGen's Integrated Research Programme**

##### **Programme A – Gene-Environment Interactions**

*Strategic Focus:* Genetics, environmental exposures and gene-environment interactions in allergy and asthma

##### **Programme B – Diagnostics and Therapeutics**

*Strategic Focus:* Biomarkers, immune monitoring and drug development/discovery

##### **Programme C – Public Health, Ethics, Policy and Society**

*Strategic Focus:* Allergic disease management and surveillance

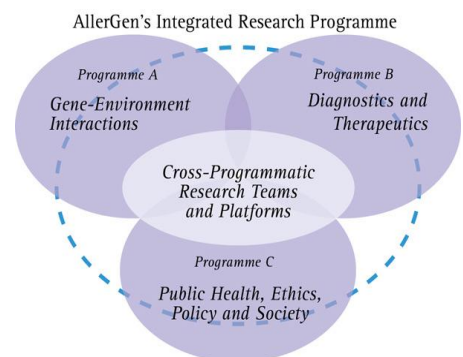
##### **Cross-Programmatic Research Teams and Platforms**

###### *Established Cross-programmatic Teams*

- Clinical Investigator Collaborative (CIC)
- Food Allergy and Anaphylaxis
- The Canadian Healthy Infant Longitudinal Development (CHILD) Study

###### *Emerging Cross-programmatic Teams*

- Mind-Body Interactions and Allergic Disease
- Occupational and Work-related Allergy and Asthma



## 1. Eligibility

The competition is open to AllerGen-funded trainees and members of the AllerGen Students and New Professionals Network (ASNPN).

### a) **AllerGen-Funded Trainees** (includes UG, Masters, PhD, PDF)

Applicants must be enrolled in a Canadian post-secondary institution and actively working on an AllerGen funded research project. This includes projects partially funded by AllerGen or partner-funded but registered as an AllerGen project.

Trainees must have their application endorsed by an AllerGen Principal Investigator.

The content of the poster/presentation must relate to the applicants AllerGen-funded research project. Ancillary work that connects to an AllerGen-funded project is acceptable.

### b) **ASNPN Members** (Research Assistants/Technicians and ASNPN members on non-AllerGen funded projects)

Applicants must be ASNPN members at the date of application and employed in Canada or enrolled in a Canadian post-secondary institution. Applications must be endorsed by a Research Supervisor.

The content of the poster/presentation must be pertinent to AllerGen's programme of research.

The Conference HQP Planning Sub-Committee will review the abstract for alignment with AllerGen's research priorities and determine eligibility.

## 2. Call for Abstracts

A poster abstract must be submitted for review to ensure the poster meets the minimum threshold of acceptable quality and relevance to AllerGen's mission and mandate. Subsequently, applicants will be notified of their eligibility to display their proposed poster.

Applicants may be required to edit their abstract prior to acceptance and/or publication. We strongly recommend applicants ensure abstracts are well written and carefully edited and reviewed by the sponsoring supervisor prior to submission.

The abstract and competition application form, signed by a Principal Investigator/Research Supervisor, must be submitted by e-mail no later than Monday, December 12, 2011 EST to the attention of Michelle Harkness, HQP and Events Co-ordinator, [michelleharkness@allergen-nce.ca](mailto:michelleharkness@allergen-nce.ca)

Please save your abstract in Microsoft Word, using the file-name:  
LASTNAME\_AllerGen\_Poster\_Abstract.2011.doc.

Late entries will not be accepted, barring extenuating circumstances approved by the HQP Planning Sub-Committee.

## 3. Format Guidelines

Abstracts may be submitted in English or French and will be printed in the language in which they are submitted. A translated copy may be provided – *optional*.

Abstracts must be no more than one page, single-spaced with 1" margins and 11 point Arial font.

The organization of information included in the abstract is illustrated below.

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Title of Poster Project</b> ----- [leave a blank line here] ----- <b>AllerGen Research Programme</b> (if applicable) <b>Author(s) Involved and Institution</b> <b>Supervisor</b> ----- [leave a blank line here] ----- [Use the following headings, leaving a blank line between each section]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Objective/Purpose</b></li><li>• <b>Methods</b></li><li>• <b>Findings</b></li><li>• <b>Deliverables</b></li><li>• <b>Relevance</b></li></ul>
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Under the *relevance* heading applicants are encouraged to address the following:

- How will research lead to new diagnostic tests, better medications and more effective public policies?
- How will your findings be communicated to decision-makers/end-users?

#### 4. **Protection of Intellectual Property**

Do not include proprietary intellectual property in your research poster unless it has already been protected, as the abstracts will be published in AllerGen's conference delegate package.

If you have questions regarding intellectual property contact Jose Mangles, Manager Research and Partnerships josemangles@allergen-nce.ca.

#### 5. **Presentation and Adjudication**

**a) Lightning Round** - Sunday, February 5, 2012 - 8:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Posters will be divided into Research Groups in a process determined by the HQP Poster Sub-Committee.

Eligible applicants will make a one minute presentation about their research during the Lightning Round. The moderator will be vigilant with timing.

Following each Research Group, a five minute question and answer period will occur where all poster presenters are expected to participate.

**b) Adjudicated Poster Session** - Sunday, February 5, 2012 from 3:45 p.m. to 5:15 p.m.

Following the “Lightning” Round there will be an adjudicated poster session, where judges and guests will mingle and ask questions about the posters.

Each project will be assigned one 4’x8’ display board in the poster presentation.

**c) Oral Presentation Finalists** - Monday, February 6, 2012 from 1:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

The judges will select the top two posters in each Research group to present to conference delegates.

The finalists will be announced on Sunday evening.

Trainees will be given a maximum of 10 minutes for their presentation and two minutes to answer audience questions. The moderator will be vigilant with timing displaying a flag at the nine minute mark.

Trainees will be allowed a maximum of six slides for their presentation, including an introductory slide.

**6. Evaluation****a) Lightning Round**

Adjudicators will rank each presentation out of 10 based on the following elements:

What?	What is the research about?	10
So What?	Research results	
Now What?	The scientific significance of the research and its potential for social/policy/healthcare and/or economic value added impacts	

**b) Adjudicated Poster Presentations**

Adjudicators will score the posters on a 0-10 scale in each of the following areas:

• <b>Poster:</b> Degree of scientific rigour and originality of the research	10
• <b>Poster:</b> Quality of the presentation of the poster	10
• <b>Poster:</b> Expected effectiveness of the plans to communicate research findings to decision-makers	10
• <b>Oral Presentation:</b> Level of professionalism, clarity and ability to communicate research effectively	10

**c) Oral Presentation**

Adjudicators will score the oral presentations on a scale of 0-10 in each of the following areas:

• Quality of Research	10
• Merit of Research	10
• Level of professionalism and clarity of presentation	10
• Ability to communicate relevance of research findings to the general public	10

**7. Summary of Commitment**

Trainees submitting posters must agree to the following:

• Submit poster application and abstract by e-mail no later than Monday, December 12, 2011
• Set-up poster display by 8:00 a.m. on Sunday, February 5, 2012 Trainee poster set-up will take place <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Saturday, February 4, 2012 between 12:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.</li> <li>• Sunday, February 5, 2012 between 7:00 a.m. - 8:00 a.m.</li> </ul>
• Make a one minute presentation during “Lightning” Round on Sunday, February 5, 2012 between 8:00 a.m. and 9:30 a.m. or 1:30 p.m. and 3:30 p.m.
• Be available at assigned space during the poster adjudication session on Sunday, February 5, 2012 from 3:45 p.m. to 5:15 p.m.
• Make a ten minute presentation to the conference on Monday, February 6, 2012 between 1:30 p.m. and 3:00 p.m., <b>if selected as an Oral Presentation finalists</b>
• Remove posters upon conclusion of the conference, no later than 4:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 7, 2012

**8. Poster Awards**

Poster awards will be presented at the Conference Banquet on Monday, February 6, 2012.

**Poster Competition guidelines and times  
subject to change with notification.**