

Guidelines on support for non-NeuPSIG meetings

NeuPSIG promotes the study of the mechanisms, assessment, prevention and treatment of neuropathic pain. As part of these objectives the SIG organizes its own scientific and educational activities, such as a biennial international congress on neuropathic pain and neuropathic pain schools. The SIG also welcomes approaches from other organizations to collaborate on joint activities that are aligned with our objectives.

Our support for joint activities includes, but is not limited to, NeuPSIG's participation in:

- Pain schools;
- Neuropathic pain days. These days typically are run in conjunction with national IASP chapter congresses and involve a day-long series of presentations on general (e.g., principals of neuropathic pain assessment and management) and specific (e.g., painful diabetic neuropathy, HIV-associated sensory neuropathy) topics relevant to the audience;
- Neuropathic pain symposia/workshops at local and international congresses;
- Guidelines meetings.

NeuPSIG views all collaborations as a partnership and that there should be equitable sharing of costs and workload by all parties involved. For example, for neuropathic pain days NeuPSIG may cover the travel costs of its members to the meeting, while the local organisation covers the costs of local accommodation. We do not prescribe the extent of our support. Instead we invite potential collaborators to approach the NeuPSIG management committee with a proposal, and the committee will decide whether to participate in the initiative and the extent of the support that can be offered.

All proposals are assessed on a case-by-case basis, but NeuPSIG will only support activities that complement its objectives. Also, NeuPSIG views joint activities as collaborations that draw on the expertise within the SIG, and therefore we typically do not provide purely financial support through direct grants to outside organisations. Nor will NeuPSIG co-sponsor activities that could imply NeuPSIG's support for a company or product. The extent of NeuPSIG's involvement must justify the cost, and NeuPSIG's support must be appropriately acknowledged by the partner organisation in promotional material and journal publications related to the activity.

All approaches, whether to NeuPSIG as a whole or to an individual must be made through the NeuPSIG Management Committee. Please send request for further information to the secretary Peter Kamerman (peter.kamerman@wits.ac.za). Proposals should include information on the nature and timing of the activity, the names of all parties that will be involved, what role NeuPSIG or its representative(s) would play in the activity, and the estimated cost of the activity (including what is being requested from NeuPSIG).