



**Alexandre Yersin Prize for Outstanding
Medical Publications
Second Edition 2019-2020**

We are pleased to launch the Alexandre Yersin Prize for Outstanding Publication for Vietnamese medical researchers. The Prize is named in honour of Dr Alexandre Émile-John Yersin (1863 – 1943) who was a great pioneer in medical research in Vietnam, and who discovered the *bubonic plague bacillus* and *Yersinia pestis*. His research represented fundamental contributions to the etiologic knowledge of plague and helped eliminate the epidemic disease that claimed millions of people over the century.

1. Goal

The primary goal of the Alexandre Yersin Prize is to encourage medical researchers in Vietnam to make a significant contribution to the medical literature, and to recognise outstanding research achievements.

2. Prize conferring organisations

Swiss-Vietnamese Medical Association (HELVIETMED)

Boulevard de Pérolles 10

CH-1700 Fribourg, Switzerland

in association with the

Consulate General of Switzerland

Bitexco Financial Tower, 37 th Floor

2 Hai Trieu, District 1

Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam

3. Scientific Committee

The scientific committee, nominated or invited by Helvietmed, includes **seven** independent voting members. **For the 2019-2020 term, the members are:**

- Professor Tuan V. NGUYEN, University of New South Wales, Sydney, Australia.
- Emeritus Professor Nu Viet VU, University of Geneva, Switzerland
- Emeritus Professor Ezio GIACOBINI, University of Geneva, Switzerland
- Emeritus Professor Jean-Pierre KRAEHENBUHL, CEO at Health Sciences eTraining Foundation, Lausanne, Switzerland
- Professor Uyen HUYNH-DO, University Hospital of Bern, Switzerland
- Dr Vincent VINH-HUNG, University Hospital of Martinique, France
- Dr Quan-Vinh NGUYEN, Fribourg, Switzerland.

4. Value of Prize

There are three prizes per year. Each prize is worth 30,000,000 VND.

5. Eligibility criteria

Peer-reviewed papers published or accepted for publication in the 24 months before the closing date of the award, i.e. in 2018 or 2019.

- Only original articles and case reports with new data are considered.
- Research must be conducted in Vietnam.
- Candidate must be the first author and corresponding author of the published paper(s), or "main author" whose contribution is explicitly specified in the paper.

6. Selection criteria

The evaluation is based on five criteria: scientific quality, significance, innovation, scientific impact and journal prestige.

Scientific quality (max 40 points)

- Hypothesis-driven research questions;
- Good research design;
- Clear formulation of research questions and aims; clear presentation of results; coherent and reasoned interpretation of data.

Practical significance (max 20 points)

- Impact on clinical practice;
- Potential impact on public health policy.

Innovation (max 20 points)

- Originality in technical methods, statistical approaches and interpretation.

Scientific impact (max 10 points)

- Echo from the scientific community in terms of the number of citations received after publication. Self-citation is not counted;
- The number of citations will be considered in relation to the journal impact factor.

Journal prestige (max 10 points)

- Professional society affiliation and/or publisher;
- Metrics based evaluation: Journal impact factor (IF), eigenfactor.

7. Procedure for scoring

- Each member of the scientific committee performs his/her rating based on the Selection Criteria.
- A member may abstain from the rating of individual publications if he/she does not have the required expertise for critical evaluation.

The sum of scores obtained from all the **rating members** will be used to determine the three winners.

8. Procedure of submission

Candidates are advised to prepare a short dossier that includes:

- A PDF-version of the paper(s) for consideration;
- A short non-technical essay (max 200 words) explains the rationale, aim, findings and significance of the paper.
- The dossier should be addressed by email to Dr Quan-Vinh Nguyen, president of HELVIETMED: Qvnguyen@swissonline.ch.

9. Announcement

The announcement of the Prize will be broadcast in all communication channels available: Facebook, blogs, advertisements in non-medical journals, professional networks of Helvietmed members and their colleagues from Vietnamese universities. Help from the Swiss Consulate may be needed to reach other health-related authorities

10. Conferring ceremony and presentation of the prize-winning publications

To honour the Prize winner as well as Alexandre Yersin, the prize-giving ceremony will be organised in association with the Swiss Consulate General in Ho Chi Minh City with the participation of the Consul General at a convenient venue.

To honour the authors for their work, we may be organising a scientific conference in which the authors may present their results to a larger public of physicians, researchers and other interested circles. The presentation in format powerpoint will also be put on our website.

11. Time frame

- Deadline of submission for 2019: 12/31/2019, midnight.
- Outcome will be announced via email by 02/29/2020