



SCHWEIZERISCHE HIRNLIGA  
LIGUE SUISSE POUR LE CERVEAU  
LEGA SVIZZERA PER IL CERVELLO

## Prize rules

### Maupertuis research prize from the Schweizerische Hirnliga (Swiss Brain League)

1. In 2024, the Schweizerische Hirnliga will be awarding a CHF 100,000 prize for outstanding scientific work in the field of brain research. The prize is given for the scientific achievement of a work group as a whole, and the prize money is intended to be used to promote further research.

2. The following criteria must be met to receive the prize:

The scientific paper must have been published as a single publication in the two years preceding the application or accepted for publication by an internationally recognized journal.

Most of the work must have originated at a Swiss clinic and/or Swiss institute.

The prize is not intended to be shared, i.e. only one Swiss research group can receive the prize. If the paper is the product of a collaborative effort between various institutions or clinics in Switzerland and/or abroad, the research group submitting the application must have played a substantive role as the first and/or last author or corresponding author of the publication submitted. In addition, the heads of the other research groups must consent to the candidature in writing.

3. The prize will be announced in the *Schweizerische Ärztezeitung* and in the bulletins of the Swiss Society for Neuroscience (SSN) and Life Sciences Switzerland at least six months before being awarded.

The prize can also be awarded at the recommendation of a board member, in which case the applicant must submit the necessary documents.

All participating authors must express their support for the application with their signature. The application must state how the applicants intend to use the prize money to serve research goals (to benefit the institution, to purchase equipment, to cover staffing costs, etc.).



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The prize recipient is the work group consisting of the participating authors who work or worked at the respective institute or clinic. Coauthors of the winning paper who do not work at the institute or clinic are not considered prize recipients but will still be mentioned in the press release.

Several Swiss institutes or clinics can apply with a paper that they have authored together as long as all authors involved give their written consent.

If several work groups of equal quality apply, preference will be given to younger, less established teams.

4. The board of the Schweizerische Hirnliga will conduct the evaluation and selection process, taking the following factors into consideration: originality, methodology, relevance to effects on the brain, physiology of the central nervous system and didactic representation. Board members with any conflicts of interest (members of participating work groups, heads of institutes, close relatives/personal ties) will be excluded.

A brief record is kept of the evaluation process, which takes place via email or regular mail.

5. The board's decisions are final. Participants have no right of recourse against the Schweizerische Hirnliga.

As a rule, the board does not give a reason for not selecting an applicant, nor does it correspond with applicants.

6. If no applications are submitted after the call for applications or no papers worthy of the prize criteria are submitted, the prize will not be awarded that year.

7. The Schweizerische Hirnliga will be in contact with members of the winning group for the purpose of press relations surrounding the award. The award will be presented in an appropriate media context, ideally as part of the international brainWeek program and as close as possible to the research group's primary location. Alternatively, it may be held during a similar health policy-related event or a Swiss neuroscientific, psychiatric or



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neurological conference. A representative of the winning research group will give a short talk explaining the group's research in language that can be understood by non-experts from the general public.

Passed by the board of the Schweizerische Hirnliga in March 2022

Prof. C. W. Hess, President

Bern, March 2022