



**eALTA** *European Alpha-1-Antitrypsin  
Laurell's Training Award*

**2012**



**Continuous  
Commitment  
to Innovative  
Research  
in the Field of  
Alpha-1-Antitrypsin  
Deficiency**

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**[www.eALTA.eu](http://www.eALTA.eu)**

**GRIFOLS**

# The Alpha-1-Antitrypsin Laurell's Training Award

A primary goal of the Alpha-1-Antitrypsin Laurell's Training Award (eALTA) is to identify and support research projects aimed at enhancing the understanding of disease mechanisms of Alpha-1-Antitrypsin Deficiency (AATD) and associated disorders and to help improving existing as well as finding new therapies.

The competitive eALTA grants offer young scientists and clinicians the opportunity to enter into the extended field of AATD or to further establish themselves in this area of research.

Another objective of the eALTA award is to strengthen the network between scientists and clinicians working in the field of AATD and to facilitate collaboration between research institutions.

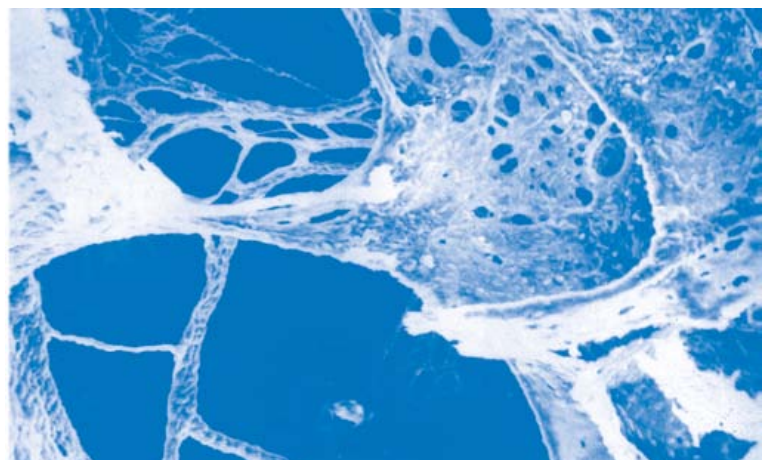
## About the eALTA Program

Grifols is a global biotherapeutic and biotechnology company that discovers, develops and produces treatments and services for patients with Alpha-1-Antitrypsin Deficiency (AATD). Grifols is committed to identifying and supporting innovative clinical and scientific research by young investigators aimed at gaining more insight into AATD. By offering the European Alpha-1-Antitrypsin Laurell's Training Award (eALTA) Grifols helps to identify new standards of care for this disease.

The eALTA Program was launched in 2004. Two fellowships per year are funded by Grifols with EUR 50,000 each for a 12-month period.

*"Grifols will carry on a strong commitment to the Alpha-1 community in the future. Through the Alpha-1-Antitrypsin Laurell's Training Award, we are expanding this commitment to help shape the future of care for people living with Alpha-1-Antitrypsin Deficiency. Recognizing our responsibilities as an industry leader, we developed this program to provide additional opportunities for younger professionals as they enter the field of Alpha-1-Antitrypsin Deficiency, gain further understanding of Alpha-1 and how to improve treatment."*

Marion Wencker, MD  
(Head of Medical and Clinical Affairs)



## Review Board

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Grifols Deutschland GmbH  
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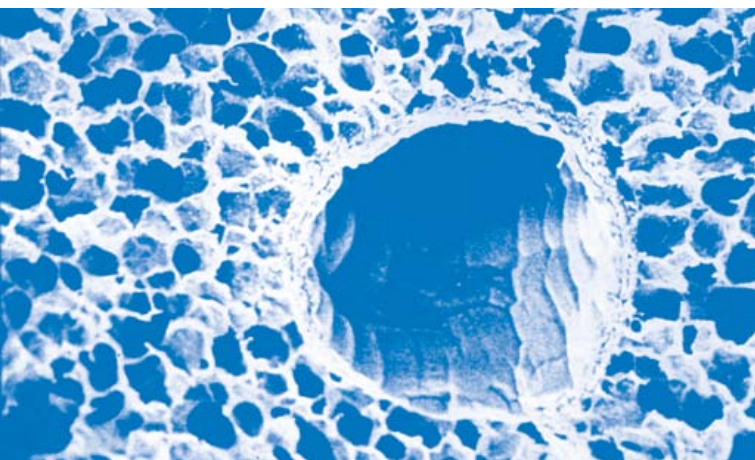
#### **Noel G McElvaney**

Royal College of Surgeons  
Dublin, Ireland

#### **Jan Stolk**

Leiden University Medical Centre  
Leiden, The Netherlands

This program is run in collaboration with the **Alpha One International Registry (AIR)**.



## *Project topics eligible for entry*

Research projects aimed at providing new insights into the epidemiology, pathophysiology, clinical course, or treatment of AATD are invited to enter. Since the crucial role of Alpha-1-Antitrypsin in different disorders becomes more important, scientific projects in the field of AATD-associated diseases such as Wegener's granulomatosis, vasculitis, diabetes or panniculitis will also be considered. Projects meeting these criteria in basic or clinical research can enter the competition.

## *Who can apply*

The eALTA award is available to early career clinicians, fellows-in-training, scientists, and other Alpha-1 health care professionals under the age of 40. Individuals who are already working in the extended field of AATD as well as those new to the field are eligible to apply for a grant.

Investigators seeking to conduct all or some of their research during the eALTA fellowship at another national or international institution are especially encouraged to enter the competition. The internationally renowned Alpha-1 research laboratories headed by the eALTA board members would be delighted to host and mentor eALTA fellows for certain aspects of their research. Grifols also offers assistance in helping to facilitate collaborations between young researchers new to the field of AATD and well-established research groups in this field.

## *Evaluation and selection of research proposals*

Applications are evaluated based on merit, innovation, impact, and research environment/qualification of the applicant. A Review Board of five external experts and one Grifols expert in Alpha-1-Antitrypsin assess and rank the grant applications.

## *2012 deadlines for the eALTA program:*

<b>Deadline for submission of letter of intent:</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> March 2012
<b>eALTA Board review letters of intent:</b>	March 2012
<b>Notification for submission of full proposal:</b>	April 2012
<b>Deadline for submission of full proposal:</b>	31 <sup>st</sup> May 2012
<b>Applicants notified of Board decisions:</b>	July 2012
<b>Award ceremony:</b>	ERS Congress 2012, Vienna
<b>Start of funding period:</b>	September/October 2012

Additional information on the grant program and application forms can be found on our Website [www.eALTA.eu](http://www.eALTA.eu).

## The 2011 eALTA winners are:

**Dr. Stefania Ottaviani** from the Centre for Diagnosis of inherited Alpha-1-Antitrypsin-Deficiency, San Matteo Hospital, Pavia, Italy.

Her eALTA research project “**Studies of methionine-sulfoxide reductase (MsrA) and oxidative stress in Alpha-1-Antitrypsin Deficiency**” focuses on evaluating the expression of MsrA in lung tissues, especially in AATD-emphysema related subjects and analyses the modulation of MsrA gene expression upon exposure of lung cells to oxidants.



Dr. Stefania Ottaviani

**Dr. Killian Hurley** working in the Education and Research Centre, Beaumont Hospital, Royal college of Surgeons in Ireland.

His eALTA research project “**Altered programmed cell death of neutrophils in individuals with Alpha-1-Antitrypsin Deficiency**” focuses on comparing the rates of AATD and normal neutrophil apoptosis and to uncover the extracellular and/or intracellular mechanism by which AAT modulates neutrophil cell death. Finally, the effect of AAT augmentation therapy on accelerated neutrophil apoptosis of ZZ-AATD individuals will be investigated as well.



Dr. Killian Hurley

## About Grifols

A new era begins. Grifols is now a new company. By joining forces with Talecris Biotherapeutics since June 2011, Grifols gets a new boost of energy. Grifols develops and produces innovative live-saving plasma-derived therapies in areas like pulmonology and immunology.

Grifols is the leading global producer of Alpha-1-Antitrypsin therapies.

By supporting early career professionals, we look to advance the body of knowledge and help shape the future of Alpha-1 care.

**GRIFOLS**

Grifols Deutschland GmbH  
Lyoner Str. 15  
60528 Frankfurt am Main  
GERMANY

info@eALTA.eu

For additional information,  
please visit [www.grifols.com](http://www.grifols.com)