

IPI Partners

To-date, CAN has five confirmed partners for the International Partnership Initiative. They are listed below:

Arthritis Foundation (USA)

<http://www.arthritis.org/>

The Arthritis Foundation is the largest private, non-profit contributor to arthritis research in the world. Its research program complements government and industry-based arthritis research by focusing on training new investigators and pursuing innovative strategies for preventing, controlling and curing arthritis. The Arthritis Foundation funds three major types of grant mechanisms: career development and training programs; investigator-initiated grants supporting basic, clinical and health services research relevant to arthritis; and, special targeted research initiatives.

Arthritis Research Campaign – arc (UK)

<http://www.arc.org.uk/>

The Arthritis Research Campaign (arc) is a major provider of funding for research into arthritis and related musculoskeletal diseases in the UK, with an annual expenditure of around £30,000,000. arc's major aim is to support the highest quality research into the cause, cure and treatment of arthritis and related musculoskeletal diseases. arc aims to improve life for people who have: osteoarthritis, inflammatory arthritis, connective tissue disease, bone disease and back pain and soft tissue disorders. It is, at present, increasing its focus on OA research.

Nuffield Foundation: Oliver Bird Training Fund (UK)

http://www.nuffieldfoundation.org/go/grants/oliverbird/page_86.html

The Oliver Bird rheumatism program awarded a total of £3,000,000 to five UK academic institutions to establish a cohort of 25 highly talented young scientists who will receive comprehensive doctoral training in rheumatic disease research and its translation for the benefit of patients. The main foci for research at the Oliver Bird Collaborative Centres are: rheumatoid arthritis and inflammatory arthritis, osteoarthritis, osteoporosis and Paget's disease.

Japan Society for the Promotion of Science - JSPS

<http://www.jsps.go.jp/english/index.html>

The JSPS is Japan's leading funding agency and covers all fields of science. Amongst funded programs is one entitled: Advanced Molecular Pathophysiology of Bone and Cartilage Diseases. The program is designed to establish collaborative projects in bone and joint diseases between four major advanced countries, beginning in four institutions: Tokyo Medical and Dental University, Harvard University, University of Toronto and Institute for Molecular Pathology in Austria. The program promotes collaborative research through conferences, workshops and exchange visits, with focus on interactions amongst both senior and young investigators and trainees from not only the four core institutions, but others in these four countries and beyond. Participants have active research programs in OA, IJD and RJF. To-date, exchange visits have occurred in all four

countries, but conferences and workshops have occurred only in Japan and the United States.

AO Foundation - Biotechnology Advisory Board (AO BAB) (Switzerland) and Synthes

<http://www.aofoundation.org>

AO BAB has recently launched a new initiative in the funded development in academic centres of new biotechnology to promote the repair of skeletal damage. Its partner for the translation of new technologies into products is Synthes, an international company based in Switzerland and the USA. CAN and AO share a number of research and development interests in this area.