ACTA 2018 Trial of the Year Awards

The ACTA Trial of the Year Award was established in 2016 as a way to recognise and celebrate the outstanding achievements of our members who advance clinical practice and save or improve the lives of patients every year through collaborative, multicenter, investigator-driven clinical trials.

Award Guidelines

Trials considered for the award will be collaboratively developed, multicenter, investigator-driven randomised controlled trials that were designed to improve patient-centered outcomes or healthcare delivery.

The trial must have been designed and led by a network or investigator group that is a current member of ACTA (full or associate member) and the primary results of the trial must have been published in the 2017 calendar year (either electronically or in print).

A peer-led panel of senior trialists and consumer representatives appointed by the ACTA Board will review all nominations and judge the trial that is the best demonstration of the following standards:

- It addressed a critical gap in the evidence or a significant innovation in healthcare delivery.
- The quality of the research design, conduct and analysis were outstanding.
- There is a high likelihood that findings from the trial will significantly impact clinical practice and/or policy and improve outcomes for patients or healthcare delivery.

Any current ACTA member (full, associate or affiliate member) can nominate a trial for consideration. Members may nominate more than one trial for consideration.

ACTA STInG Excellence in Trial Statistics Award

All trials nominated for the ACTA 2018 Trial of the Year Award will also be considered for an additional award that will honour excellence in clinical trial statistical design and analysis. Alongside the judging process for Trial of the Year, nominated trials will be reviewed by an expert panel of statisticians convened by the ACTA Statistics in Trials Interest Group (ACTA STInG).

This panel will consider the statistical methods summary provided on the trial nomination form, along with the trial’s published statistical analysis plan and primary results paper to identify a trial for which:

- The scientific quality of the statistical design was outstanding and/or innovative.
- The statistical component of the study was conducted to extremely high standards and/or overcame significant challenges, including processes for the collection and verification of data and planning and management of statistical analyses.

* Primary Results refers to the first publication reporting the analysis of trial’s primary endpoint as specified in the published statistical analysis plan or online trial registration profile.

The ACTA Board will consider the recommendations of the judging panel in making its decision to announce the winning trial, named finalists and the recipient of the Excellence in Trial Statistics Award. The Board’s decision will be final.
• The analysis and reporting of the data was of exceptional quality and/or the statistical techniques used were state-of-the art or novel.

The Trial of the Year Award will be judged according to the criteria above, including whether the trial addressed a critical evidence gap and its likely impact on policy and practice. The Excellence in Trial Statistics Award will be judged separately on the statistical component alone. As such, it may be that the Trial of the Year wins both awards, or it may be one of the named finalists or a trial that otherwise does not make the finalists list for Trial of the Year wins the Excellence in Trial Statistics Award.

Announcement of winner(s)/finalist + requirements for investigators

The investigators of the winning trial(s) and finalists will be notified confidentially in the first week of May, with the awards to be announced publicly on 16th May 2018, during a ceremony that will also mark International Clinical Trials Day (celebrated internationally on 20th May).

For the Trial of the Year Award either the Chief Investigator or a nominated senior member of the network or investigator group of the winning trial (and wherever possible, each of the named finalists) must be available to attend the ceremony in Melbourne or Sydney (TBA) to receive the award and to participate in media activities in relation to the awards, including by helping to source trial participants or patients for interview.

The Chief Investigator of the trial named Trial of the Year will also be invited to give a presentation on key lessons learned from the trial at the ACTA 2018 Summit. Travel and registration costs to attend both the award ceremony and presentation at the ACTA Summit will be supported for up to two representatives for the Trial of the Year.

For the Excellence in Trial Statistics Award either the Chief Statistician or a nominated senior Statistician of the network or investigator group must be available to attend the award ceremony to accept the award.

How to nominate a trial

Any current paid ACTA member may nominate a trial for consideration by providing the following:

• A completed nomination form signed by an ACTA member or Authorised Representative. This will include:
  o A brief peer summary (approx. one page) describing the trial and why it warrants recognition as Trial of the Year.
  o A brief lay summary (approx. half page) describing the trial and how the results are likely to impact patients and/or the delivery of healthcare. Lay summaries should be suitable for publication on the ACTA website and in the general media.
  o A brief summary (approx. half to one page) describing the statistical design and analysis of this trial and why it warrants consideration for the Excellence in Trial Statistics Award.

• A PDF copy of the published paper and details for accessing the trial’s published statistical analysis plan.

Nomination forms can be downloaded from the ACTA website at: www.clinicaltrialsalliance.org.au/events-forums/acta-trial-year-awards-2018/

Nominations will close 5pm, Wednesday 18th April 2018. No further nominations will be accepted after the deadline.