The Dr. Chew Wei MBBS [HK] FRCOG [ENG] Memorial Prize in Cancer Research

Administered by the University of British Columbia Faculty of Medicine

The Dr. Chew Wei MBBS [HK] FRCOG [ENG] Memorial Prize in Cancer Research was created by gifts made to the University of British Columbia by Mrs. Margaret Chew and the family of the late Dr. Chew Wei. The inaugural prize was awarded in 2014.

1. Donor Information:
The Dr. Chew Wei MBBS [HK] FRCOG [ENG] Memorial Prize in Cancer Research establishes a prize to a physician or scientist who holds an academic appointment in good standing, who has made a transformational, internationally-recognized contribution to the fight against cancer, with an emphasis on researchers whose achievements span the spectrum of health research, from the laboratory to clinical care, to health systems and public policy.

2. Genesis of the Prize:
The University of British Columbia’s Faculty of Medicine will recognize the world’s most outstanding cancer researchers with a prize named for the late Dr. Chew Wei, a Hong Kong physician who practiced Obstetrics and Gynaecology for nearly four decades in Hong Kong. He became increasingly dismayed by the prognosis for his patients who developed ovarian cancer and was determined to do whatever he could, even posthumously, to improve outcomes for women facing this disease.

3. Purpose of the Prize:
One Dr. Chew Wei MBBS [HK] FRCOG [ENG] Memorial Prize in Cancer Research will be awarded annually to a Canadian physician or scientist who makes outstanding contributions to the treatment, amelioration, or development of therapies for cancer. The prize is awarded with the expectation that the recipient will continue to make outstanding contributions in the future, since this is not a lifetime achievement award. Among the criteria that will be considered is a distinguished record of translating scientific discoveries into clinical applications, forging partnerships with scientists and others to foster cancer research or to implement discoveries, and cultivating future leaders in the field.

4. Monetary Award for Each Prize
One prize of $50,000.00 CAD will be awarded annually. The value of the prize will be re-evaluated every third year.
5. Eligibility Requirements
To be considered for a prize, candidates must be nominated by an expert in their field. A letter of invitation to submit is not required; however, only nominations from qualified nominators will be considered and self-nominations will not be accepted. The selection committees reserve the right to rule on the eligibility of nominees. The University may decline to award a prize in any given year if the Dean of the Faculty of Medicine is of the opinion that awarding a prize is impractical or undesirable.

5.1. Eligible Candidate Nomination Criteria:
5.1.1. Must be a Canadian citizen; and
5.1.2. Must hold an academic appointment in good standing and be active and productive in their career; and
5.1.3. Must have made outstanding contributions to the treatment, amelioration, or cure for cancer.

5.2. Ineligible Candidates:
5.2.1. Those who have previously received a Dr. Chew Wei MBBS [HK] FRCOG [ENG] Memorial Prize in Cancer Research at any time. No individual may be awarded the prize more than once; and
5.2.2. Members of the Selection Review Committee may not be awarded the prize during their term as members; and
5.2.3. Institutions or Associations are not eligible to be nominated.

6. Nomination Process
The nominator is responsible for gathering all of the relevant documentation and submitting a nomination package in English, which must include a completed nomination form and supporting material as follows:

6.1. Nomination Form Documentation:
6.1.1. The nominator’s contact details;
6.1.2. The nominee’s full home and office addresses, telephone and fax numbers, and email address;
6.1.3. The signed declaration of the nominator;
6.1.4. The names and contact details of two experts willing to provide a letter of support. One expert must be from outside Canada.

6.2. Nomination Supporting Documentation:
6.2.1. A letter of nomination stating the nominee’s contribution to the treatment, amelioration, or development of therapies for cancer, the nominee’s cultivation of future leaders, and the nominee’s impact on their field of work, including a list of the nominee’s five most significant publications and the reasons why the nominee should receive the award (a maximum of three pages);
6.2.2. The nominee’s curriculum vitae, including a complete list of publications;
6.2.3. Two letters of support from experts in the nominee’s field of work. One expert must be from outside Canada;
6.2.4. Proof that the nominee is a Canadian citizen (for example, a photocopy of nominee’s identifying passport page).

A completed nomination package must be received by the UBC Faculty of Medicine via email in PDF format by the predetermined deadline. Late or incomplete nominations will not be accepted.

7. Resubmissions
The nominations of eligible candidates may be considered for up to three years. Nominators are required to submit the following documents for reconsideration:

7.1. An updated letter of nomination stating the nominee’s contributions to the treatment, amelioration, or development of therapies for cancer, the nominee’s cultivation of future leaders, and the nominee’s impact on their field of work, including a list of the nominee’s five most significant publications and the reasons why the nominee should receive the award (a maximum of three pages);
7.2. The nominee’s updated curriculum vitae, including a complete list of publications.

8. Adjudication Process
The eligible nomination packages will undergo primary adjudication by a Selection Review Committee with members both internal and external to UBC. The Dean of the Faculty of Medicine, in consultation with the Selection Review Committee, will select the prize recipient through a majority vote. In the event of a tie, the Dean will make the final decision as to the prize recipient. Selection of the Prize recipient is final and without appeal.

9. Notification of Results
The Faculty of Medicine will notify the prize recipient and their nominator by telephone or email. The Faculty of Medicine will notify all remaining nominators of the results by email. The name of the recipient will formally be announced to the public once the nominators and selected nominees have been notified. Except for notifying Prize recipients, the Faculty of Medicine will not contact nominees.

10. Conditions of Receiving the Award

10.1 Publicity:
10.1.1 Recipients and nominators must not reveal the results of the prize competition until the Faculty of Medicine releases the official public announcement;
10.1.2 Prize recipients agree to the use of their name and information in all official prize related communications. Prize recipients agree to the use of photography and other
public information about themselves and their research to be used for all promotional materials as they relate to the prize and other promotional initiatives;

10.1.3 The recipient must agree to fully participate in all prize activities, including public lectures, media conferences, ceremonies and receptions. In particular, recipients are expected to attend a prize ceremony the year they are recipients of the award, and provide some reflections on their career, the field, and the significance of the award;

10.1.4 The recipient must also agree to participate in prize related activities in future years at the request of the Dean of the Faculty of Medicine, including public lectures, media conferences, ceremonies and receptions.

10.1.5 If the selected prize recipient dies before the prize is awarded at the ceremony, the prize will be awarded posthumously on the basis that it may not have a financial aspect.

10.1. Spending Conditions:

10.1.1 While there are no restrictions with regards to how the monetary prize may be used, it is expected that prize recipients will continue to demonstrate excellence in health research and make further contributions in their field of work.