



Abarca Prize

“Vocation must be able to act *freely* if it is to be a means *of good healing*”.

DOCTOR JUAN ABARCA CAMPAL

II EDITION

Abarca
Prize

CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS:
FEBRUARY 15 to MAY 31



Ad Profectum Medicinae

'ABARCA PRIZE',
The international award for
medical sciences Doctor
Juan Abarca

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“This prize seeks to recognise the efforts of people of science that embody the human and professional values that Dr Juan Abarca Campal has defended throughout his personal life and professional career: life values dedicated to the health and well-being of his patients, based on an unfailing commitment to his ideals and to his belief that nothing is impossible, to working with integrity and to showing why you should always look a patient in the eye”

The inspiration for 'ABARCA PRIZE' comes from the figure of renowned Doctor Juan Abarca Campal, a surgeon and businessman who has dedicated his life to furthering people's health. This initiative aimed at the scientific and research community has been imbued with the same human values the physician has always lived by.

Dr. Juan Abarca Campal together with his wife the medical professional Dr. Carmen Cidón Tamargo, developed in 1989 a disruptive concept of private healthcare system and founded HM Hospitales. Today, over 30 years later, HM Hospitales is an essential asset in the National Health System and has more than 40 healthcare centers throughout the country.



Dr Abarca Campal has been given dozens of awards by the media, professional associations, and companies in the health and insurance sector. The most noteworthy of these, without a doubt, is the “Cruz Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice” granted by Pope John Paul II in 2005. Other significant commendations include the Seneca award from the Association of Health Journalists and the Great Cross of Madrid Health which was awarded by the Community of Madrid in recognition of the doctor’s extraordinary contribution to the medical sector in the Spanish capital over 30 years.

His healthcare philosophy is well summarized in the “Decalogue of a Hospital”. The commandments remain vital to HM Hospitales to this day. The rules have allowed the company to become one of the most important operators in the Spanish healthcare system, in which research and teaching have allowed for these pillars to be introduced as essential parts in Grupo HM Hospitales’ operation.

After the success of the its I Edition in 2021, the organization of the International Award for Medical Sciences Doctor Juan Abarca is pleased to announce the opening of the submissions period for the II Edition of 'ABARCA PRIZE'.

This prize will be awarded to a person from the field of research and science anywhere in the world whose work has contributed in a transcendental way to improving individuals' and populations' health.

This way, 'ABARCA PRIZE' seeks to promote the role of research worldwide as a tool for change to improve people's quality of life and generate the talent that enables improvement.

For all these reasons, the prize will be awarded to an activity that has served to generate new knowledge of global relevance and that has been able to modify the health systems of countries, the risk factors of preventable diseases, social determinants or environmental impact.

The award, whose nominations will be made through the website www.abarcaprize.com, has an endowment of 100,000 euros and an accrediting diploma for the winner.

The organization of 'ABARCA PRIZE' is channelled through Fundación de Investigación HM Hospitales, a non-profit organization established in 2003 with the fundamental objective of promoting and managing the development of a bio sanitary R+R+D, as well as the Social Work of Grupo HM Hospitales.

The process of nominations and selection of candidates for the II Edition of 'ABARCA PRIZE' involves two stages. In the first of them, from February 15 to May 31 of this year, the period for receiving nominations opens, which will be carried out indirectly through the sending of a letter of intent, using the form available at www.abarcaprize.com

The award nominations must be submitted by a third party. They will be able to nominate companies, foundations, renowned researchers, Universities, Hospitals, Professional Colleges, Scientific Societies, Royal Academies, etc. Applications may be submitted in Spanish or English.

As of June 1 and once the nominations have been received, Fundación de Investigación HM Hospitales, through a committee of experts made up of impartial members, will assess the suitability of the applications. This committee will determine the final selection presented to the jury, which will include a maximum of 5 proposals.

In a second stage, the members of the jury will evaluate the documentation submitted and before July 30, in a meeting by teleconference and based on their best criteria, the jury will determine the winner proposal, with a report in which the merits that support the election will be reflected.

The 'ABARCA PRIZE' jury will be external and independent and will be diverse in terms of professional profiles (scientists, clinicians and other branches) and nationalities.

The winner will be announced in the second week of October and the award ceremony will take place at the end of the same month in Madrid.

Jean-Laurent Casanova, winner of 'ABARCA PRIZE' I Edition (2021)

In its 1st edition, the 'ABARCA PRIZE' was awarded to Prof. Jean-Laurent Casanova, researcher at Rockefeller University Hospital in New York, for his professional career of more than 30 years. His findings have revealed that any life-threatening human infectious disease can be caused, at least in some patients, by genetic mutations that affect a person's ability to fight off those infections so, in essence, Prof. Casanova has solved the so-called "infection enigma".



Jean-Laurent Casanova, winner of 'ABARCA PRIZE' I Edition (2021)

'ABARCA PRIZE' award ceremony was presided by His Majesty King Felipe VI who stressed that *“the birth of this award is an event of enormous significance, since it facilitates and enhances the dialogue between science and industry. A fair society is one that knows how to recognize those who put their efforts into improving the lives of others and have a real impact on society”*.



Jean-Laurent Casanova, winner of 'ABARCA PRIZE' I Edition (2021)

In 2021, 'ABARCA PRIZE' had an international jury panel for its first edition chaired by Professor Alberto Muñoz Terol, renowned researcher and Professor of the Higher Council for Scientific Research (CSIC) at the Institute of Biomedical Research of Madrid (IIB). This jury was formed also by:

- Dr. Richard Horton, editor-in-chief of the medical journal The Lancet
- Prof. Silvia G. Priori, Italian cardiologist and researcher - National Center for Cardiovascular Research (CNIC)
- Prof. Juan Luis Arsuaga, Spanish scientist, professor and paleontologist. Director of the Centro Mixto UCM-Instituto de Salud Carlos III for Human Evolution and Behaviors and co-director of the deposits at Sierra de Atapuerca
- Prof. Federico de Montalvo, Doctor of Law and president of the Bioethics Committee of Spain since 2019

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