PROSPECTUS:

♦ Comparative Effectiveness Research Award ($60,000)

AWARD POLICIES AND PROCEDURES:

PURPOSE

The Comparative Effectiveness Research Award in Neuroradiology was created to support investigators in the generation and synthesis of evidence that compares the benefits and harms of diagnostic imaging methods or interventions to prevent, diagnose, treat and monitor a clinical condition or to improve the delivery of care. Comparative effectiveness research (CER) is valuable to clinicians, patients, purchasers, and policy makers in making informed decisions that will improve health care at both the individual and population levels. For example, CER projects may include the direct comparison of diagnostic imaging modalities or interventions for a specific disease in a study population. Neuroradiologists have an important role in the development of new imaging technologies and image-guided procedures, as well as in the assessment of these techniques in the clinical care of patients.

ELIGIBILITY

A candidate must be a member of ASNR in good standing with an MD or DO degree, and must be board-certified or board-eligible in Radiology by either the American Board of Radiology or the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada (RSPSC). A candidate must have completed a residency in diagnostic Radiology and at least one year in an ACGME-approved fellowship in neuroradiology or be enrolled in an ACGME-approved fellowship in neuroradiology during the award period.

RESEARCH AWARD ACTIVITIES

A. The award will initially be approved for one year. A second year may be requested during the third quarter of the first year of the award. Approval for the second year will depend on funding cycles and a successful demonstration of research progress.

B. The research project may involve any aspect of neuroradiology. Priority will be given to those proposals that emphasize technology assessment, patient outcomes, or health services research. Retrospective reviews and meta-analyses will also be considered.

A list of prior awardees may be found at:

C. The research proposal must have a clearly stated, testable hypothesis and well-developed aims.
D. One goal of the CER award is to provide the awardees with the means to develop preliminary data in order to pursue extramural funding for extended research from such agencies as the NIH (K or R series award), AHRQ (Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality) or other foundation awards. Preference will be given to those projects that demonstrate potential for external funding beyond the CER award funding period.

E. An itemized budget is required as part of the award proposal submission. Funds (up to the maximum of the award) may be apportioned as required by the investigator, but must be briefly justified in the application. Examples of fund use might include: (i) salary support for protected research time for the investigator, (ii) salary support for associated staff (e.g. research assistants and/or PhD collaborators), (iii) appropriate equipment and/or scanner time access, and combinations of the above.

LOCATION OF STUDY

A. Strong consideration will be given to applicants from departments and institutions that show a commitment to the applicant’s research development in comparative effectiveness research.

B. The parent institution must demonstrate adequate resources and facilities to carry out the terms of the project. Specific involvement by experts outside of Radiology or outside the medical school will be viewed favorably. A letter of support from the department Chairman is required.

CONDITION OF APPOINTMENT

A. The total award amount is up to $60,000 per year (direct costs only), which will be paid in two equal installments on July 1st and January 1st of the year of the award. Any portion of the award not utilized should be returned to The Foundation of the ASNR. The proposed allocation of award resources (salary support and other research costs) should be specified in a detailed line-item budget submitted with the full proposal.

B. The funding will go directly to the Institution or department of Radiology as direct costs only. No overhead or indirect costs are provided.

C. Bi-yearly updates due on the 1st of January and the 1st of July within the year of the award cycle must be submitted in writing to The Foundation of the ASNR. These are not to exceed one page. The progress report should summarize the specific aims and the progress achieved, explain any significant changes to the specific aims, new directions to be undertaken due to those changes, and expenditures to date. Any publications, patents, or other material related to the funded research should be included on a separate page and submitted separately. The final report should include the above with the additional summary if a publication, patent, or grant is being or will be prepared using the results obtained from this Foundation grant. In the final report, a second page should be submitted separately describing the clinical impact of the results of the research, the strengths and weakness of the Foundation grant program, and the role that the Foundation or ASNR had, has, or might have in their future.

D. Institutional restrictions will be taken into consideration on an individual basis by the Research Committee, AJNR’s Editor-in-Chief, and The Foundation of the ASNR.
Otherwise, AJNR has the first right of refusal for publication of research papers generated from this award. The awardee is expected to present his/her results at the ASNR Annual Meeting.

E. Applicants who hold any of The Foundation of the ASNR Research awards, the RSNA Research Scholar, Research Fellow, or Research Seed Grant Award, GERRAF or ARRS Grant Award will not be eligible for another award or fellowship in that same year.

F. An institution will only be permitted to accept one research award per track sponsored by The Foundation of the ASNR in that year.

G. Note: while institutional IRB approval is not required at time of award proposal submission, no funds will be disbursed before such approval is documented.

H. No award will be made without prior confirmation from the Program Director or Department Chair that the applicant’s proposal will be supported in full by the host institution. Such documentation will be requested by the ASNR office after proposal review.

I. This award may be transferred to another institution, following approval by The Foundation of the ASNR for the designated individual, provided the new institution abides by the original agreement and the awardee is able to carry out the proposed work in the new setting with equivalent support and resources. This request must be submitted in writing to The Foundation of the ASNR at least 30 days prior to the transfer. Each institution sponsoring the awardee will receive a portion of the funding that is in proportion to the length of time that research was performed at their institution. In the event that a decision is made by The Foundation of the ASNR not to allow transfer of the award to another institution, the original institution sponsoring the awardee will receive funds that are proportionate to the length of time the research project was performed at that institution.

J. The award is not transferable to another individual.

SELECTION METHOD

A. Awards will be designated and administered by The Foundation of the ASNR.

B. The Research Committee of ASNR, or its designate, will provide review and recommendations to the Foundation for the recipient of the award.

APPLICATION SCHEDULE

A. The deadline for receipt of letters of intent is 9:00 AM Central Daylight Time (CDT), Monday, November 3, 2014. These should be one-page abstracts of the research proposal, submitted electronically (in .pdf or .doc format) to Rahul Bhala (foundationawards@asnr.org). On the subject line of e-mail submissions, indicate the following:

♦ Comparative Effectiveness Research Award Letter of Intent Submission

Applicants who are selected from the letter of intent stage will be notified that they are invited to submit a full proposal, and an application will be provided. The deadline for receipt of full proposal submissions is 9:00 AM Central Standard Time (CST), Tuesday,
January 20, 2014. Full proposals should also be submitted in electronic form (.pdf or .doc). On the subject line of e-mail submissions, indicate the following:

♦ Comparative Effectiveness Research Award Application Submission

A. Selection of award recipients will be in early spring, with subsequent notification of the recipient and institution. All those with interests in the award, or employees of an institution that may be involved in the award, shall recuse themselves from voting on such applications. In the event that applications are received from the institutions of the Research Committee co-Chairs, the ASNР Vice President will assume the responsibility of coordinating review of the applications.

B. Announcement of the Foundation Research Awards will be made at the 2015 ASNР Annual Meeting and posted on the website.