



NRS Swierenga Medal 2026-

Call for proposals

Purpose of the award

The NRS Swierenga Medal will be awarded by the Professor dr. Jaap Swierenga Foundation under the auspices of the NRS. The medal will be awarded to a highly esteemed individual who is active in the area of respiratory diseases in the broadest sense. This may pertain to a great merit in diagnosis and/or treatment and/or science and research, and/or special societal merit in respiratory diseases. Previous awardees include Prof. dr. M. Drent en prof. dr. W. Timens, Prof. P Hiemstra, prof. H Groen and prof. E Wouters ([see past awardees](#)).

The award

The award will be presented to an individual who has had a huge impact on respiratory diseases in his or her lifetime and is accompanied by a medal and a charter. More information on the award can be found on the [Swierenga website](#).

Application

A person or a legal institute can nominate one or more candidates who have distinguished themselves in a special way in respiratory diseases. Alternatively, candidates can apply directly. The application letter should explain the merit of the candidate with respect to diagnosis, treatment and/or science in the respiratory field. In addition, evidence of the societal impact of the research should be provided. Lastly, a list of career achievements should accompany the application letter. In case the candidate applies directly, a letter of recommendation by a person or legal institute should be added to the application.

The application letter and accompanying documents should be sent via [email](#) to the NRS secretariat, addressed to the Swierenga medal committee. The list of proposed candidates will not be published.

Evaluation Criteria

The candidates will be assessed on the following criteria:

- Scientific merit: Relevance of the research to lung diseases with respect to diagnosis/ treatment/science, novelty and innovation
- (Societal) Impact: dissemination, patient related outcomes, translational potential, policymaking
- Main career achievements within the field, scientific record, quality of publications, academic background, professional experience, extracurricular activities.

Procedure

The evaluation committee exists of three members who are appointed by the Board of the NRS. These are members of the following background:



1) The chair of the Board of the Professor dr. Jaap Swierenga Foundation; 2) One of the past recipients of the award; 3) A past-president of the NRS.

Members of the committee will be appointed for a period of three years and can be appointed for a second period of three years. The Board of the NRS proposes the chair. The committee needs a unity in voting to propose an awardee according to the evaluation procedure. If there is not a suitable candidate, the committee can give a negative advice, i.e. not propose a laureate.

Assignment

The Board of the NRS decides to assign the award based on the advice of the evaluation committee. The selection procedure is confidential and there is no possibility to discuss the selection by correspondence.

Time scheme

The deadline for application is 14 November 2025. The awardee will be proposed by the end of December. The 2026 medal will be awarded on 30 January 2026 during the Dutch Lung Congress by a representative of the Professor dr. Jaap Swierenga Foundation.

For more information, please contact:

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