



PRECISION-BTC COST Action CA22125

MENTORSHIP PROGRAM 2024-2025

Objectives

Precision BTC Network COST Action CA22125/European Cholangiocarcinoma Network (ENS-CCA) and the International Cholangiocarcinoma Research Network (ICRN) are pleased to announce a collaborative mentorship initiative.

The program aims to support and guide junior researchers in their career paths and scientific development by pairing them with experienced mentors from the ICRN and Precision BTC networks.

While many institutions already have established mentorship practices, this joint program offers a unique opportunity for junior researchers to receive guidance from international, independent, and highly experienced physician-scientists, mentors who share a passion for biliary tract cancer research.

The mentorship program for 2024-2025 includes the following features:

- Duration: 6-month virtual mentoring activity
- Focus: Career development and professional choices; biliary tract cancer research
- Commitment: Mentors and mentees are expected to participate in a 1-hour virtual meeting every 30-45 days
- Progress Reporting: A final report must be submitted to the Program Administrator at the end of the program
- Opportunities: Upon completion, mentees may apply for the COST Short-Term Scientific Mission to visit their mentor's institution, provided they meet the eligibility criteria
- Conference Participation: Mentees can submit an abstract to present their scientific work, if applicable, at the Cholangiocarcinoma Foundation Annual Conference Poster Session in Salt Lake City, Utah.

Eligibility Criteria for Mentees

- Educational Background: Applicants must be early-stage researchers with either a Medical Degree (MD) or a Ph.D. obtained within the last 10 years (i.e., after January 1, 2014). For those holding both degrees, the date of the first degree will be considered valid.

- Research Focus: Candidates should have a demonstrated interest in biliary tract cancer research, evidenced by at least one published paper or abstract on the topic.

Application Process for Mentees

Junior investigators interested in applying for the Mentorship Programs are invited to submit the [application form](#) and ensure the following documents are included:

1. Curriculum Vitae
2. Motivation Letter: Clearly specify reasons for applying, objectives, and anticipated outcomes by the conclusion of the program.
3. Letter of Recommendation: A letter from a current supervisor or head of department endorsing the application.
4. Published Work: A paper or abstract on biliary tract cancer research authored by the applicant

Selection Process and Matching

- Application submissions open: September 20, 2024
- Applications deadline: October 20, 2024
- Selection and matching: By November 5, 2024, Program Directors and the Board of Mentors will select up to 15 Mentees and match them with Mentors.
- Notification of matches: By November 20, 2024

Start of the program and Follow-up

- Matched Mentors and Mentees must arrange the first call by December 1, 2024.
- By the end of the program, a final program evaluation form will be sent to Mentees and Mentors to evaluate the program's effectiveness and keep it up-to-date and useful.
- Mentees and their Mentors must submit their evaluation within a maximum of 30-days from the end of the program.