

A plan of policies and activities for 2021

1. Objectives and activities

Objectives:

The *International Collaboration on ADHD and Substance Abuse (ICASA Foundation)* is an international research network. The two main objectives of ICASA are:

- Increase of the quality of diagnostic and treatment procedures for patients with both Attention Deficit Hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) and Substance Use Disorders (SUD);
- Prevention of development of SUD in children, adolescents and adults with ADHD.

Target group:

The ICASA foundation is specifically committed to the interests of children, adolescents and adults with ADHD and patients having both ADHD and SUD

Activities/actions:

The main activities of the research network are developing and conducting international multi-center research studies, and dissemination of findings through publications in international peer-reviewed journals and presentations at international conferences. The topics of ICASA studies are within the scope of the main goals of ICASA. Another research activity is writing reviews, consensus statements and/or other (scientific) documents, summarizing and commenting on existing research on the topic of ADHD-SUD. The network and its participants participate in scientific conferences and meetings, and in training activities (mainly for researchers and professionals) to inform the scientific community and professionals working with patients with ADHD-SUD on the results of the first two ICASA activities.

The ICASA Foundation board consists of the chair, the secretary, the treasurer and three members. The ICASA board is the decision-making body of the foundation. The board is responsible for decisions on what actions (studies, scientific papers, conferences etc.) will be undertaken, and for formal matters like financial reports, the website of the foundation, organizing network meetings etc.

As ICASA is an international research network, it needs an Office to coordinate the activities. The ICASA research office is located at RadboudUMC/NISPA Nijmegen, the Netherlands. The ICASA Foundation Office coordinates following activities:

1.1. Coordination of the ongoing projects in 2021

INCAS Project

The International Naturalistic Cohort Study of ADHD and Substance Use Disorders (INCAS): clinical characteristics, treatment, and outcome (INCAS). The aim of this study is to describe the treatments provided and the outcomes regarding ADHD symptoms and substance use in adult treatment seeking SUD patients with ADHD.

Data collection that started in October 2017 will continue until 31st May 2021. After the inclusion of the new subjects in the study, the work on the analysis of the data at the baseline point will start. Three

months after 31st May 2021 the follow up data should be collected, and then the final (nine-months later) the final follow up data should be acquired for these subjects. The analysis including the follow up data will continue in 2021 and next year.

IASP-Genetics Project

The IASP-Genetics-project is a continuation of the IASP projects. After the extraction of the DNA is completed the data analysis on the sampled DNA will continue in 2021.

IASP-2 Project

The IASP-2 Project is a replication study of the IASP Project. This new wave additionally includes data on nicotine use and dependence in the groups of treatment seeking SUD patients with and without ADHD. The IASP-2 project includes data from Puerto Rican and South Africa.

1.2. Setting up new research projects and seeking funding for these projects

To keep on working towards the ICASA Foundation goals, it is necessary to set up new research projects, and find new funding resources. This is a joint effort of the board and the ICASA participants network. The ICASA Foundation Research Office has a coordinating role in this activity.

In 2021 a new study concerning ADHD and SUD in adolescents is being planned and prepared. This in line with our mission, in particular with aspect of prevention of SUD in adolescent ADHD patients. We aim to gain more expertise on child and adolescence.

1.3. Organizing participation in International Conferences and training activities

In order to inform the scientific community, and professionals working in the SUD-ADHD field, ICASA participates in symposia, lectures and training activities. These activities are organized via the ICASA Foundation Research Office.

Due to Corona restrictions all regular meetings take place on-line. The next ICASA Network meeting is scheduled for April 2021. During this event, members of the ICASA network will discuss new results and provide an update on ongoing projects. Depending on the situation, the future ICASA-Network meeting in Amsterdam (International Conference on ADHD-SUD) in autumn 2021 is discussed.

1.4. Formal activities

The formal aspects of the ICASA Foundation, including bookkeeping, payment of invoices, handling incoming financial resources, keeping the ICASA Foundation bank-account are handled by the ICASA Office.

Each year a formal financial report is required and needs to be signed by the ICASA chair and treasurer at the annual board meeting.

The yearly board meeting and network meeting need to be organized. When necessary, extra network meetings are being organized.

Formal documents need to be archived, and both other ICASA-related documents and research related documents need to be archived, in hard-copy and digitally.

In the beginning of 2021, due to Corona restrictions the Board meetings and the Network meeting will be organised on-line. During the first board meeting the financial report from a previous year will be discussed and approved. Budget and the new year planning for 2022 will be the main topics of the second board meeting that will take place the end of the calendar year.

2. Method of generating income

The ICASA Foundation is a not-for-profit organization. It seeks funding for its activities via voluntary participation fees of its participating institutes and via external funding organizations.

3. Management and use of the institution's assets

The ICASA office pays incoming invoices. Both the incoming and outgoing payments are accounted in the financial report, which is controlled by the ICASA Board. Details on how money are managed is documented in the Financial report and Budget documents that can be found on the website.