

An overview of the BIAL Foundation

The BIAL Foundation was created in 1994 by the BIAL pharmaceutical company together with the Council of Rectors of Portuguese Universities. BIAL Foundation's mission is to foster the scientific study of the human being from both the physical and spiritual perspectives. It is managed by representatives from both institutions.

Along the years the BIAL Foundation has developed an important relationship with the scientific community, first in Portugal and then worldwide. Today it is a renowned institution, particularly in the Neuroscience and Parapsychology research, which aims to stimulate new researches that benefit people, providing more health and enabling us to reach new levels of knowledge.

Prémio BIAL de Medicina Clínica

The Foundation manages the Prémio BIAL de Medicina Clínica, which is considered one of the most important awards in the field of health in Europe. This Award, worth €100,000, seeks to recognize an intellectual, original work on any freely chosen medical topic on clinical practice.

Since its establishment this award has had a significant impact on the scientific research community





BIAL Award in Biomedicine

The BIAL Award in Biomedicine was created in 2018 to extend the scope of the BIAL Foundation's activity and to acknowledge the most notable and relevant discoveries in the field of biomedicine.

The award, with a prize of €300,000, aims to recognise exceptional high quality, scientifically relevant research in the biomedical field published within the last ten years. The Award is granted bi-annually 2019 onwards.

The BIAL Award in Biomedicine has the support of the President of the Portuguese Republic, the Council of Rectors of Portuguese Universities and the European Medical Association.

Since its establishment this international Award has recognized peer-reviewed papers of outstanding scientific quality



Maria de Sousa Award

Since 2021, to honour the memory of the physician and great researcher Maria de Sousa, the Portuguese Medical Association and the BIAL Foundation promote annually, in exclusive partnership, the Maria de Sousa Award.

The award, with a total amount up to €150,000, aims to award and support up to five young Portuguese researchers, aged 35 or under, with scientific projects in the area of Health Sciences, including a mandatory internship in an international center of excellence.





Grants for Scientific Research

The BIAL Foundation promotes grants aiming to encourage the research into healthy human being's physical and mental processes, arousing the interest of researchers in the fields of psychophysiology and parapsychology.

Support includes:



Beyond and Behind the Brain

The BIAL Foundation pursues a scientifically rigorous approach to some of the more debated and often neglected areas of psychophysiology and parapsychology.

Since 1996 the BIAL Foundation has organised symposia entitled 'Behind and Beyond the Brain'. Every two years this symposium brings together world-renowned experts in neurosciences and parapsychology, as well as a great number of researchers supported by the Foundation.

"Exceptional Experiences", "Consciousness and Brain", "Memory", "Emotions", "Intuition and Decision-making", "Sleep and Dreams", "Mind-matter Interactions", "Placebo effects, Healing and Meditation", "Enhancing the Mind" or the most recent "The Mystery of Time", were some of the themes.



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