Each fellowship comprises 50,000 Euro. The duration of each fellowship is 12 months. The research project should start within 6 months after granting the fellowship.

This award is intended to be the fellow’s primary salary support, equivalent to the usual and customary salaries of individuals in comparable positions at the host institution, and will also include travel costs. The host institution is responsible for providing the fellow the respective research environment, i.e. the capacity to perform high-level research in PsA.

Project applications will need to be sent to the PARTNER Fellowship Office by December 1st, 2016. Application is also possible online, please visit www.partner-fellows.eu.

The PARTNER Psoriatic Arthritis Network Fellowship Program will be funded by Celgene Sàrl.
Psoriasis Arthritis (PsA) is one of the most severe joint diseases. Despite being more prevalent than Rheumatoid Arthritis, current knowledge on the pathophysiology of PsA is still limited. This situation warrants more research in order to better understand the specific molecular processes and clinical features of PsA.

PARTNER is an international fellowship program with the overall aim of stimulating the scientific study of disease mechanisms in PsA. The program’s purpose is to better understand the molecular and cellular mechanisms leading to PsA and to use the gained knowledge to improve diagnosis and monitoring of PsA. Further, PARTNER aims to make investigators enthusiastic for clinical and basic research in PsA and to build a research network in PsA. This program provides physicians an appropriate environment to start their PsA research and offers excellent teaching in research in PsA.

Fellowships will be granted to allow a one-year stay in one of the host institution to accomplish a research project thematically oriented to PsA and meeting the aforementioned objectives of the PARTNER fellowship. Applicants will have to submit a research proposal describing the planned study and need to mention their choice of the host centre, where they plan to conduct the research. All host centres participating in the PARTNER fellowship program are dedicated to high-quality research and education in PsA.

To be eligible for the PARTNER Fellowship, applicant needs to:

• Be a medical doctor with a specific interest in PsA
• Be a rheumatologist in training
• Plan to devote 100% of professional time to research during the fellowship year

Proposals will be evaluated by a Scientific Board from the participating centres and rated based on their research content and quality as well as the track record of the individual applicant.

The PARTNER Scientific Board will consider:

• Scientific quality of the research project
• Qualifications of the applicant
• Evidence of the applicant’s interest to conduct original research in the PsA field
• Previous research experience
• Original research papers published or presentations at scientific meetings