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Prescrire's Solidarity Support Programme

Helping individuals or organisations whose goals are close to *Prescrire's*, in countries with insufficient financial resources



Prescrire's Solidarity Support Programme was founded in 1993. The original purpose of the Programme was to allow *Prescrire* subscribers to donate subscriptions to *Prescrire* or *Prescrire International* to healthcare professionals practicing in low-income countries.

This principal has since been enlarged. Grants now cover research materials beyond just subscriptions to *Prescrire*, and extend to training for the editors of independent drug bulletins and other educational or research initiatives that are in tune with *Prescrire's* goals and values.

The Programme's activities in 2010

Contributions from *Prescrire* subscribers in 2010 totalled €11 593. The majority is derived from vouchers given to subscribers for bringing in new subscribers, or to reviewers for critiquing draft articles. Many recipients choose to donate these vouchers to the Solidarity Support Programme.

The activities funded included:

- **Training for members of Cedim.** This organisation in Burkina Faso publishes *La Lettre du Cedim*, which is a member of the International Society of Drug Bulletins. Its editor received training to create a new website.
- **Participation in the 2010 *Prescrire* Encounters.** The Programme funded travel and expenses for 9 Algerian subscribers to attend the *Rencontres Prescrire 2010* in Brussels. 3 of them presented posters on healthcare initiatives in their country.
- **Subscriptions to *Prescrire* and *Prescrire International*.** The Programme financed subscriptions for healthcare professionals in low-income countries, often for members of the International Society of Drug Bulletins. In 2010 the Programme sponsored subscriptions for recipients in Cuba, Tunisia and a handful of other developing countries.

How to get involved

Prescrire calls upon readers to put forth suggestions of future beneficiaries for an award from the Solidarity Support Programme. Subscribers and other interested parties are also encouraged to contribute financially. No contributions are accepted from pharmaceutical firms or other sources which may present a conflict of interest.

Please send suggested beneficiaries, or your contribution, to:
Prescrire - Abonnés Solidaires, 83 bd Voltaire, 75558 Paris Cedex 11, France

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Further details and Programme rules are available online at english.prescrire.org