Massachusetts General Hospital
Corporate & Foundation Relations
Office of Development

PRIVATE FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES: MAR 24, 2017

Please contact Corporate & Foundation Relations in the Office of Development at devcfr@mgh.harvard.edu if you wish to submit a proposal in response to any of these opportunities. Note that proposals are still routed through the standard InfoEd/Research Management process.

*Please be aware that any grant that brings in less than **15% in indirect costs (IDC)** will need to be supplemented up to the 15% equivalent by existing investigator or departmental sundry funds. Resolution of this issue must occur prior to submission of the award. Training fellowships from foundations, public charity, and non-profit organizations are excluded from this minimum IDC requirement.*

1. Translational Research Advancing Therapy for ALS (TREAT ALS) / The Lawrence and Isabel Barnett Drug Development Program - BRIDGE GRANTS, ALS Association (Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis Association)

There is currently one FDA-approved drug for the treatment of Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS), riluzole (Rilutek), improving survival by two to three months. Other treatments are available that relieve the symptoms associated with ALS and improve the quality of life for patients living with the disease by providing comfort to the patient. However, there is an urgent need for improved therapies. With the recent progress in understanding ALS, the increased effort to develop tools to identify novel treatments for the disease and advances in technology, the opportunity to discover improved treatments for ALS could not be better. The ALS Association's TREAT ALSTM program funds research from early target identification to preclinical research and early pilot clinical trials. As part of the program, The Association is requesting letters of intent for its drug development contract program, milestone driven research to develop new treatments for ALS. The program compliments the Department of Defense ALS research program and the translational programs at the National Institutes of Health and specifically aims to support studies that will de-risk and incentive industry partners to further pursue interesting targets.

This call supports the preclinical assessment of therapeutics for ALS. The proposed studies are expected to be product-driven and focused on therapeutics. It is anticipated that the agents and/or data generated from these awards will lead to the advancement of new therapies for ALS. The program is designed to support preclinical testing and development of therapeutics for ALS. Applications must include preliminary data relevant to the phase(s) of the preclinical development process covered by the proposed research. Applicants must clearly and explicitly

articulate what impact the project may have on therapeutic development for ALS. Clinical trials will not be supported with this funding opportunity.

The contracts are limited to the areas of programmatic interest listed below. Applications must focus on one or more of these areas to be considered for funding. Applications that do not focus on at least one of the following areas will be administratively withdrawn. Preliminary data supporting the choice of target for drug development for ALS must be provided both in the letter of intent and the full application. Priority is given to applications focused on developing compounds directed towards the most attractive targets for ALS with significant data to support the relevance of the chosen target for ALS therapy. Industry partnerships are encouraged.

- Testing of compounds in mouse models of ALS. (NOTE: Design of mouse model study and approaches to measure target engagement will be critically assessed and relevant details must be included in the letter of intent. Additional studies in human tissue and/or IPS lines are encouraged to strengthen mouse data).
- Development of pharmacologic agents through Adsorption, Distribution, Metabolism, Excretion, and Toxicity (ADMET) phase; This can be performed by a contract research organization in collaboration with the PI.
- Screening of compound libraries to identify lead compounds. (This should be for an already established assay).
- Design and implementation of full-scale, pilot current Good Manufacturing Practice (cGMP) production of therapeutics and/or delivery systems for use in advanced preclinical and initial clinical trials.

Award Amount: $50,000-$500,000 for up to 2 years
Indirect Costs: 10%
LOI Deadline: May 23, 2017
Website: http://www.alsa.org/research/our-approach/call-for-abstracts/treatals-barnett-bridge-grants.html

2. TREAT ALSTM Clinical Management Grant Program (Clinical Management Grant), ALS Association (Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis Association)
The aim of the ALS Association TREAT ALSTM Clinical Management Grant Program is to improve care and living with ALS with a focus on clinical, psychological and or social management of ALS.

Examples of relevant clinical management studies for this mechanism include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Studies that address the gaps in the delivery of care (as outlined in the ALS practice parameters)
- Studies that explore and develop telemedicine for the care of individuals with ALS

- Psychological interventions in ALS to address the significant mental health issues facing ALS patients and care givers
- Nutritional and respiratory intervention
- Studies to address the needs of care givers for patients with ALS and cognitive/behavioral impairment
- Development of novel endpoints for clinical trial
- Assistive Technology

This call supports research aimed at improving the lives of people living with ALS and their families. The proposed studies are expected to generate data that can be implemented in ALS clinical centres. Applicants must clearly and explicitly articulate what impact the project may have on the quality of life for people with ALS. Clinical trials will not be supported with this funding opportunity.

Award Amount: $200,000 paid over 2 years
Indirect Costs: 10%
LOI Deadline: Apr 21, 2017
Website: http://www.alsa.org/research/our-approach/call-for-abstracts/clinical-management-grant-2017.html

3. Neonatal Resuscitation Program (Young Investigator Award and NRP Research Grant), American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP)
Funds are available from the NRP to support research that furthers knowledge in the area of neonatal resuscitation. These funds may be used to generate pilot data to allow the investigator to develop the basis for an application for independent research support through conventional granting mechanisms. The Committee is particularly interested in proposals that will investigate how NRP impacts neonatal outcomes, projects that examine the educational methodologies and simulation technologies that pertain to neonatal resuscitation, and those that explore the optimal methods of evaluating the cognitive, technical and behavioral skills necessary for successful resuscitation of the newborn.

In addition, the Committee remains very interested in clinical and basic research that advances the evidence base supporting resuscitation practices and treatment recommendations. Major areas of interest include but are not limited to:

- Human factors impact on delivery room resuscitation
- Use of ventilation devices and approaches to initial ventilatory support immediately following birth
- Use of oxygen of varied concentrations and the impact on the effectiveness of resuscitation and outcome
- Optimal delivery of chest compressions in the newborn
- Optimization of NRP education

Award Amount: $50,000 for 1 year
Indirect Costs: None
LOI Deadline: Apr 7, 2017
Website: https://www.aap.org/en-us/continuing-medical-education/life-support/NRP/Pages/NRP-Research-Grant-and-Young-Investigator-Award-Program.aspx

4. ASH Bridge Grant Program, American Society of Hematology (ASH)
The long-term goal of the award is to help sustain recipients' research and contribute to their retention in hematology investigation.

All applicants must submit proposals to conduct research in hematology.

- Basic Research
  ASH considers basic research to include a broad spectrum of studies on genes, proteins, lipids, carbohydrates, biochemical and signaling pathways, receptors, hematopoietic cells, and samples obtained from human patients or from vertebrate animal models. For the purpose of this grant, hematology-related basic research is designed to further our understanding of the blood, bone marrow, and related organs and/or the pathogenesis of blood disorders. The emphasis for grants in this category should be on the discovery of new knowledge in a traditional laboratory setting.
- Translational Research
  ASH defines translational research as using knowledge of human biology to develop and test the feasibility of relevant interventions in humans and/or determine the biological basis for observations made in individuals with hematologic conditions or in populations at risk. Translational research should be founded on and directly connected to some aspect of human biology and may encompass any form of structural, biochemical, genetic, or other appropriate experimental approaches using human materials.
- Patient-Oriented Clincal Research
  Patient-oriented research is defined as research conducted with human subjects and involves an investigator directly interacting with human subjects. Categories of patient-oriented research include: (1) mechanisms of human disease, (2) therapeutic interventions, (3) clinical trials, and (4) development of new technologies.
- Outcomes-Based Research
  Options for outcomes-based research include: (1) a decision-analysis or cost-effectiveness analysis of a relevant topic within hematology, (2) survey-based research investigating practice patterns, access to care, quality of care, clinical outcomes, or quality of life among patients with hematologic conditions, (3) retrospective analyses of large administrative databases (e.g., CMS, a large insurer, SEER) that may enlighten health-care policy decisions related to hematologic disease, and (4) large scale epidemiologic or genetic epidemiologic studies that define the incidence, prevalence, prognosis, and natural history or the effects of therapy of blood disorders.

Award Amount: $150,000
Indirect Costs: ASH intends for the $50,000 in institutional matching funds to complement the ASH support. Indirect costs can account for up to $25,000 of the matching funds.
Application Deadline: May 1, 2017
Website: http://www.hematology.org/Awards/Career-Training/407.aspx

5. Genetics and Public Policy Fellowship, American Society of Human Genetics (ASHG)
This is a fellowship program designed for genetics professionals with an advanced degree who are early in their careers and interested in the development and implementation of genetics-related health and research policies at a national level. The fellow will have the opportunity to participate in policy analysis at NHGRI and ASHG, and to work directly within the U.S. Congress.

The extent to which the discoveries from genetics and genomics research are translated into the improved health of the American people is greatly influenced by policy decisions guiding research and the integration of genetics and genomics tools in the clinical setting. The American Society of Human Genetics (ASHG) and the National Human Genome Research Institute (NHGRI) co-sponsor the Genetics and Public Policy Fellowship to give genetics professionals an opportunity to contribute to the policy-making process. The fellowship is designed as a bridge for genetics professionals wishing to transition to a policy career. This unique fellowship provides three separate types of experiences: time spent in the National Institutes of Health within the Executive Branch; a staff position on Capitol Hill serving elected officials in the Legislative Branch; and experience working with ASHG in the non-profit science advocacy sector. This variety of assignments provides experience for fellows in multiple areas of policy-making and helps build a professional network that advances their careers in policy.

The activities of the fellow will vary with each rotation. They will include research and analysis on a wide range of policy issues impacting biomedical research and its clinical application, and summarizing those analyses for different audiences. Writing tasks may include crafting new policy position statements, preparing testimony, summarizing legislation and drafting speeches. The fellow will participate in a variety of forums and will be expected to represent the involved organizations effectively in individual meetings and larger settings.

Award Amount: $72,000 paid over 16 months
Indirect Costs: Unpublished
Application Deadline: Apr 21, 2017
Website: http://www.ashg.org/pages/policy_fellowship.shtml

6. Fellows Award, MQ: Transforming Mental Health New
The Fellows Award supports the best and brightest early career scientists and clinicians as they establish their independence.

MQ supports researchers from all disciplines, around the world, who are asking challenging questions that will contribute to transformative advances in mental health research. Research can be based in the laboratory, clinic or field, and may involve experimental, clinical, theoretical, social science or medical humanities approaches. It must be relevant to the cause, treatment or prevention of mental illness.

In their 2017 funding call, MQ has announce that in addition to their existing MQ Fellows Award, they are offering 3 co-funded Fellows Awards.

Arthritis Research UK - the leading authority on arthritis in the UK
This is the second year MQ is partnering with Arthritis Research UK. Together, they recognise the significant mental health burden that musculoskeletal disease can bring, in particular as a result of chronic pain, and the impact that this can have on quality of life. For this award they would encourage applications that examine mental health conditions associated with musculoskeletal disorders.

Autistica - the UK's leading autism research charity
Both MQ and Autistica understand that mental health problems are highly prevalent in autism, and that understanding and tackling these problems is a research priority for the autism community. For this award they are seeking applications targeted towards novel research into mental health issues directly associated with autism.

The Stanley Center for Psychiatric Research at Broad Institute - an organization which focuses on severe mental illness, to co-fund one Fellow based in a Low and Middle Income Country focused on neuropsychiatric genetics

MQ has partnered with The Stanley Center for Psychiatric Research at Broad Institute. The Stanley Center focuses on severe mental illness and has recently expanded collection efforts in Africa and other Low and Middle Income Countries (LMIC). This award will support activity targeted towards novel research into mental health issues by offering a Fellows Award to an early-career scientist based in a LMIC focused on neuropsychiatric genetics.

Candidates must be eligible to enter the UK for an interview and to participate in annual meetings, if not a British national. Applicants are responsible for obtaining their own visa, if required.

Award Amount: £225,000 GBP paid over 3 years
Indirect Costs: None
Application Deadline: Apr 25, 2017
Website: https://www.mqmentalhealth.org/research/apply-fellows

7. Independent Grants for Learning & Change (IGLC): Track 2 - Call for Grant Applications (CGA) - Addressing Knowledge Gaps in the Science of Biosimilars for the Specialist (Educational Area: CGA - US Biosimilars Knowledge Gaps), Pfizer, Inc.
The mission of Pfizer Independent Grants for Learning & Change (IGL&C) is to partner with the global healthcare community to improve patient outcomes in areas of mutual interest through support of measurable learning and change strategies. "Independent" means that the projects funded by Pfizer are the full responsibility of the recipient organization. Pfizer has no influence over any aspect of the projects and only asks for reports about the results and the impact of the projects in order to share them publicly.

Through this CGA Pfizer encourages organizations to submit grant requests that, if funded, will support education in a specific disease state, therapeutic area, or broader area of educational need. Educational activities should not be focused on products specific to Pfizer.

Geographic Scope: United States Only

Clinical Area: Biosimilars

Specific Area of Interest for this CGA:
Education leading to a clear understanding of the appropriate use of biosimilars and other emerging concerns is critical for specialists; including fellows, nurse practitioners, physician assistants, and all other healthcare professionals involved in preparing for their appropriate use in clinical practice.

The intent of this CGA is to support educational programs that seek to improve knowledge and competence of specialists and their respective teams with the science of biosimilars related to their specific practice environment.

Proposals should address one or more of the following areas of learning need:

- Analytics and their importance in biosimilar development
- Extrapolation of indications based on the evaluation of the totality of evidence including; PK, PD, immunogenicity, and difference in expected toxicities in each condition of use.
- Health Outcomes and access to biological medicines in gastroenterology, oncology/hematology, rheumatology, and/or inflammation.
- Issues surrounding clinician, nurse and patient confidence relating to the use of biosimilars and strategies to mitigate them.
- Practice recommendations to ensure optimal patient information and consultation during biosimilar adoption/implementation.
- Potential of biosimilars to enable optimal combination therapy
- Concept of interchangeability and substitution, versus prescriber facilitated switching.

In a 2017 publication, a total of 1201 US specialty physicians were surveyed to assess current levels of awareness, knowledge, and perceptions of biosimilars. Five major knowledge gaps were identified: defining biologics, biosimilars, and biosimilarity; the approval process; safety and immunogenicity; understanding the rationale for extrapolation of indications; and defining interchangeability. Although the majority of the specialists have heard about biosimilars, their actual baseline knowledge of biosimilars was low, as the portion of respondents answering correctly rarely surpassed 50% for questions that focused on therapies. The results of this survey identified a clear need for evidence based education on the science of biosimilars across specialties.

Award Amount: $250,000
Indirect Costs: 28%
Application Deadline: Apr 21, 2017
Website: http://www.pfizer.com/responsibility/grants_contributions/grants_process

8. Independent Grants for Learning & Change (IGLC): Track 2 - Call for Grant Applications (CGA) - Understanding the Dietary Gap and the Role of Multivitamin/Mineral (MVM) Supplementation (CGA - MVM), Pfizer, Inc.
The mission of Pfizer Independent Grants for Learning & Change (IGL&C) is to partner with the global healthcare community to improve patient outcomes in areas of mutual interest through support of measurable learning and change strategies. "Independent" means that the projects funded by Pfizer are the full responsibility of the recipient organization. Pfizer has no influence over any aspect of the projects and only asks for reports about the results and the impact of the projects in order to share them publicly.

Through this CGA Pfizer encourages organizations to submit grant requests that, if funded, will support education in a specific disease state, therapeutic area, or broader area of educational need. Educational activities should not be focused on products specific to Pfizer.

Geographic Scope: Global

Clinical Area: Micronutrients for Human Health

Specific Area of Interest for this CGA:
It is Pfizer's intent to support educational programs that focus on increasing awareness amongst international nutrition professionals, clinicians (including physicians), and policymakers of the:

- Essential role of vitamins and minerals for human health
- Role and safety of MVM supplementation to meet nutritional requirements

Of specific interest is creating awareness of the prevalence of insufficient micronutrient intake globally and the resulting nutritional status, with special consideration for populations at risk

for suboptimal micronutrient status (due to inadequate diets, drug/nutrient interactions, medical conditions, special diets, etc.)

All activity types will be considered through this CGA, including live events, satellite symposia, workshops, online courses, print materials, and other enduring materials, including published proceedings. An activity taking place alongside a global nutritional conference attracting international and regional experts, such as the IUNS-ICN Congress of Nutrition, is of particular interest. Efforts should be made to encourage interaction, incorporate real-world patient case discussions, and provide opportunities to extend and reinforce learning opportunities beyond the live setting.

Award Amount: $108,000 paid over 2 years
Indirect Costs: 28%
Application Deadline: May 3, 2017
Website: http://www.pfizer.com/responsibility/grants_contributions/grants_process

9. Biomarker Development/Validation, Rare Diseases Clinical Research Network (RDCRN)/Clinical Research in ALS and Related Disorders for Therapeutic Development (CReATe) Consortium New

The CReATe Consortium, an NIH-funded Rare Diseases Clinical Research Consortium (RDCRC), in partnership with the ALS Association, is pleased to announce this request for applications (RFA) to support the discovery and/or validation of biomarkers that are relevant to the development of therapies for patients with ALS or a related disorder (including primary lateral sclerosis [PLS], hereditary spastic paraplegia [HSP], progressive muscular atrophy [PMA], multisystem proteinopathy [MSP], and frontotemporal dementia [FTD]). Proposals to develop either wet (e.g. biological-fluid based) or dry (e.g. neuroimaging, neurophysiological) biomarkers are encouraged. Investigators submitting an application in response to this RFA may also request to use the data and/or biological samples collected by the CReATe Consortium.

Biological Samples:
Investigators are encouraged (but not required) to utilize existing sample collections, such as those housed at the CReATe Biorepository, Coriell Biorepository, or NEALS Biorepository.

Award Amount: $60,000
Indirect Costs: 10%
LOI Deadline: Apr 7, 2017
Website: http://www.alsa.org/research/our-approach/call-for-abstracts/biomarker-development.html

10. Research Grants, Worldwide Cancer Research
The sponsor's goal is to fund scientific research that may, in future, help reduce the incidence of cancer or improve cancer survival. The sponsor awards project grants to support basic or translational research into the causes, mechanisms, diagnosis, treatment or prevention of cancer. This definition is usually interpreted conservatively.

Worldwide Cancer Research does not accept applications for clinical or psychosocial research and other types of applied cancer research. This includes healthcare delivery or patient care research, health economics, public health or policy research, quality of life or behavioural studies, and clinical trials. This list is not exhaustive.

Applications on cancer symptoms or treatment side effects are accepted only if there is a very clear link to improving cancer survival. Studies investigating the biology of a side effect or symptom alone are unlikely to be accepted.

Basic studies into fundamental cellular processes, mechanisms and molecules are within remit if it is clear that the aim of the research is to improve the understanding of cancer biology. If a project is to study the normal functioning of cellular processes, mechanisms or molecules - or to study very basic models such as yeast - evidence supporting the relevance to cancer biology must be laid out.

Internal Coordination: The application must be approved by the applicant's Head of Department and Authorising Officer before the grant deadline.

Award Amount: Up to £250,000 GBP for 1-3 years
Indirect Costs: None
Application Deadline: Apr 21, 2017
Website: https://www.worldwidecancerresearch.org/funding-for-research/