Massachusetts General Hospital
Corporate & Foundation Relations
Office of Development

PRIVATE FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES: APR 14, 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. Career Development Bridge Funding Award: R Bridge, American College of Rheumatology (ACR)/Rheumatology Research Foundation

The mission of the Rheumatology Research Foundation is to advance research and training to improve the health of people with rheumatic disease.

The purpose of the Career Development Bridge Funding Award: R Bridge is to provide funding to NIH R01 or VA RCS/ORD award applicants whose application was scored but not funded and who are at risk of running out of research support.

Award Amount: $200,000 paid over 2 years
Indirect Costs: None
Application Deadline: Jun 1, 2017
Website: http://www.rheumresearch.org/career-development-research-awards

2. Career Development Research Awards - Investigator Award, American College of Rheumatology (ACR)/Rheumatology Research Foundation

This award is intended to support junior investigators during the period that they are developing a project that will be competitive for NIH funding. It is not intended to be a second postdoctoral fellowship. The purpose is to provide support for basic science, translational, and clinical investigators engaged in research relevant to the rheumatic diseases for the period between the completion of post-doctorate fellowship training and establishment as an independent investigator.

Applications are rated on the following criteria in this order of importance:

1. Relevance of the proposed research plan to rheumatology and rheumatic diseases.
2. The proposed research project's scientific merit.
3. The appropriateness of the proposed project as a mechanism for developing the applicant into an independent rheumatology investigator.
4. The environment in which training will be conducted, specifically the mentor, the unit, the available facilities, and the potential for inter- and extra-departmental interactions.
5. The applicant's background, training and potential to develop into a productive research scientist.
6. The institutional commitment to protect applicant's time for research and continued education.
7. The applicant's submission of a strong methods section with clear statistical and power analyses where appropriate.

Award Amount: $375,000 for up to 3 years
Indirect Costs: 8%
Application Deadline: Jul 3, 2017
Website: http://www.rheumresearch.org/career-development-research-awards

3. Career Development Bridge Funding Award: K Bridge, American College of Rheumatology (ACR)/Rheumatology Research Foundation

The purpose of this award is to provide bridge funding for promising investigators as they are revising outstanding individual career development awards (i.e., NIH K series awards or VA CDA-2 awards). Through this bridge funding award, the Foundation plans to support young faculty members so that they have the highest likelihood of achieving success in obtaining longer term career development awards.

In addition to an excellent application, applicants must be capable of becoming independent, self- directed researchers with a clear and firm institutional commitment to their career development, including a faculty position and other supporting resources.

Applications will be reviewed on the following criteria:

- Relevance of the proposal to the Foundation's mission to improve the health of people with rheumatic disease
- Demonstrated experience and productivity as a rheumatology fellow and/or junior faculty member
- Score and critique from NIH/VA study section
- Evidence of strong Scientific and Career Mentoring
- Demonstration of Institutional Support

Award Amount: $75,000 for 1 year
Indirect Costs: None
Application Deadline: Jun 1, 2017
Website: http://www.rheumresearch.org/career-development-research-awards#KBridge

4. Innovative Research Grant, American College of Rheumatology (ACR)/Rheumatology Research Foundation

These projects are designed to be carried out primarily by a single investigator/institution and must be completed within the two-year period. Projects may include biomarker development/ validation using patient-derived material, studies to understand pathophysiology using patient-derived material, and studies to improve diagnosis, prognosis or treatment using human subjects or patient-derived materials. The principal investigator is required to devote a minimum of 20 percent full-time professional research effort to the project.

Award Amount: $400,000 for 2 years
Indirect Costs: 8%
Application Deadline: Jun 3, 2017
Website: http://www.rheumresearch.org/innovative-research-award

5. Triological Society/American College of Surgeons Clinical Scientist Development Awards, American Laryngological, Rhinological, and Otological Society, Inc. (Triological Society)

TRIO and the American College of Surgeon's (ACS) combined competitive research career development program provides supplemental funding to otolaryngologist-head and neck surgeons who receive NIH Mentored Clinical Scientist Development Awards (K08) or Mentored Patient- Oriented Research Development Awards (K23). The TRIO and ACS are offering these awards as a means to facilitate the research career development of otolaryngologist-head and neck surgeons, with the expectation that awardees will have sufficient pilot data to submit a competitive R01 proposal prior to the conclusion of the K awards.

Award Amount: $240,000-$400,000 for up to 5 years
Indirect Costs: None
Application Deadline: May 26, 2017
Website: http://www.triological.org/researchgrants.html#trioacs

6. Science and Technology (S&T) Award Program: Translational Research Award, CooperVision

The goal of the CooperVision Science and Technology (S&T) Award Program is to bring award recipients and CooperVision together to explore new areas of technology advancement.

CooperVision recognizes and highly value the need to find the best ideas that have the potential to deliver benefits to people across the globe. To this end, these awards will bring the best ideas forward to enable the transition of concepts into real-world solutions. Proposed research should demonstrate significant potential for research discoveries and the rapid commercialization of technological advancements within the CooperVision key focus area for FY2018.

A CooperVision Translational Research Award is a multi-year award for a substantive translational research project. Research under this award is milestone-driven in order to remain focused on a well-defined goal. Translational research is inherently high-risk and the use of milestones provides a clear indicator of a project's continued success or emergent difficulties.

Translational research is defined as the application of already established fundamental scientific discovery or technologies to the development and testing of solutions for clinically relevant problems.

Translational research

- Is not hypothesis-driven;
- Applies already-established technologies, models, and/or approaches;
- Advances a clinical solution or product concept;
- Can involve knowledge transfer among various scientific fields.

The key focus area for FY2018 are:

- Research on visual fatigue associated with use of digital devices; including characterization of ocular signs and symptoms, root cause, triggers, and individual susceptibility
- Strategies to improve ocular surface and contact lens comfort; emphasis on:
- approaches / mechanisms for controlled delivery
- novel devices
- non-pharmaceutical therapies
- Technologies to expand the functionality of contact lenses for application beyond conventional vision correction

Award Amount: $400,000 paid over 2 years
Indirect Costs: Unpublished
LOI Deadline: May 26, 2017
Website: https://coopervision.com/our-company/science-and-technology-awards

7. Sickle Cell Disease/Advancing Cures, Doris Duke Charitable Foundation (DDCF) New
This program will support research to advance curative approaches for sickle cell disease including gene modification and drug therapies to restore hemoglobin function.

Research in the past five decades has resulted in decreased childhood mortality and improved disease management options for patients with sickle cell disease. However, further efforts are needed to advance approaches that aim to attack the disease at its core by safely and sustainably restoring hemoglobin function. The Sickle Cell Disease/Advancing Cures program was created to harness promising scientific advances toward restoring hemoglobin function and enable their development into clinically feasible therapies.

The Sickle Cell Disease/Advancing Cures program seeks to support research that will:

- Advance gene therapies for sickle cell disease into the clinic, including gene addition and genome editing.
- Build on globin regulatory mechanisms to restore red blood cell function.

DDCF seeks to fund research needed to advance curative therapies or new drug candidates that would restore hemoglobin function. Research studies of interest include, but are not limited to, the following investigations:

- Therapeutic agents to restore hemoglobin function
- Methods or approaches to maximize procurement of hematopoietic stem cells from patients with sickle cell disease for ex vivo manipulation
- Approaches to maximize the rate of genetic correction of hematopoietic stem cells with available gene therapies for long-term benefit and to minimize off-target effects
- Testing of safer bone marrow conditioning regimens to minimize toxicity in patients with sickle cell disease
- Determinants of hematopoietic stem cell engraftment in patients with sickle cell disease

DDCF encourages crossover of researchers from other disciplines and specialties to work on sickle cell disease.

Applicants must propose a clinical research project that meets the foundation's definition: For this program, clinical research is defined as the scientific investigation of the etiology, prevention, diagnosis, or treatment of human disease using human subjects, human populations or materials of human origin. Included in the definition are studies that utilize tissues or pathogens only if they can be linked to a patient.

It is expected that the research protocols of grant applicants will require Institutional Review Board (IRB) approval. Occasionally, DDCF has funded research that does not require IRB approval, such as research using de-identified patient populations. If a research project is being proposed that does not require IRB approval, applicants are strongly encouraged to contact program staff to discuss whether the proposed research falls within the DDCF's definition of clinical research.

In keeping with the wishes expressed in Doris Duke's will, experiments that utilize animals or primary tissues derived from animals will not be supported by this program. Animal-based

research is allowed to be presented as preliminary evidence supporting the proposal but the aims themselves may not include research with non-human animals.

Award Amount: $150,000-$300,000 paid over 3 years
Indirect Costs: 10%
Proposal Deadline: May 25, 2017
Website: http://www.ddcf.org/what-we-fund/medical-research/goals-and-strategies/advance-biomedical-research-and-innovation/sickle-cell-disease-advancing-cures/

8. Edward N. and Della L. Thome Memorial Foundation, Bank of America N.A., Trustee, Awards Program in Alzheimer's Disease Drug Discovery Research, Health Resources in Action (HRiA)/The Medical Foundation
The Edward N. and Della L. Thome Memorial Foundation was created in 2002 to advance the health of older adults through the support of direct service projects and medical research on diseases and disorders affecting older adults. The goal of the 2015 Awards Program in Alzheimer's Disease Drug Discovery Research is to support innovative drug discovery research that will lead to improved therapies for individuals suffering from Alzheimer's disease.

Researchers dedicated to the validation and testing of target compounds and therapeutic agents including biologics and small molecules, are encouraged to apply. Consideration will be given to research focused on pathogenic mechanisms including inflammatory response, synaptic toxicity, neuronal toxicity, and endosomal/lysosomal trafficking defects.

Preference will be given to originality of ideas, regardless of faculty seniority.

Basic research or new target discovery, genetic studies, biomarker research, neuro-imaging and clinical studies are currently outside the scope of this Program.

Award Amount: $500,000 paid over 2 years
Indirect Costs: None
Preliminary Proposal Deadline: Jun 2, 2017
Website: https://hria.org/tmf/thomead/

9. John J. Bonica Trainee Fellowship, International Association for the Study of Pain (IASP)
The John J. Bonica Trainee Fellowship was established in 1998 in memory of the founder of IASP to support training in all aspects of pain research.

During the fellowship, the trainee will pursue either clinical research or basic science research under the guidance of a mentor at the institution of his or her choice. The IASP Fellowships, Grants, and Awards Working Group will consider the balance between clinical and basic science research.

Award Amount: $100,000 paid over 2 years
Indirect Costs: None
Application Deadline: May 29, 2017
Website: http://www.iasp-pain.org/Education/GrantDetail.aspx?ItemNumber=2039

10. Grant Opportunities, LAM Foundation
The LAM Foundation offers grant opportunities for researchers interested in studying lymphangioleiomyomatosis.

The LAM Foundation offers the following research awards and grants:

- Career Development Awards
- Established Investigator Awards
- Pilot Project Awards (available for the initiation of innovative research projects)
- Other awards (The LAM Foundation also considers proposals for clinical trials, bridge funding and other special projects.)

Examples of competitive LAM proposals include:

- Focus on the genetic regulation of smooth muscle growth or the development of a smooth muscle cell line that is representative of the LAM lesion
- Mechanistic, hypotheses-driven approaches of all types
- Formalin-fixed LAM tissues, dispersed LAM lung cells, genetic probes and other reagents

Award Amount:

- Career Development Awards provide a maximum of $50,000 per year, renewable for up to two additional years).
- Established Investigator Awards provide a maximum of $50,000 per year, renewable for up to two additional years. This award may be condensed to two years should the investigator request it.
- Pilot Project Awards provide up to $25,000 and are available for the initiation of innovative research projects.

Indirect Costs: Unpublished
LOI Deadline: Jun 15, 2017
Website: http://www.thelamfoundation.org/research/apply-for-lam-funding

11. Meso Foundation Research Grant Program, Meso Foundation
The Meso Foundation (formerly known as MARF) is the non-profit dedicated to ending the suffering caused by mesothelioma. The Meso Foundation is the international collaboration of patients and families, physicians, advocates, and researchers dedicated to eradicating the life-ending and vicious effects of mesothelioma. The Meso Foundation believes in a cure for meso. In addition to raising awareness of the disease, advocating on behalf of the meso community,

educating those newly diagnosed and providing support to those affected, the Meso Foundation funds the most promising meso research projects through rigorous peer-review.

Eligible projects may relate to benchwork, translational or clinical research that is not presently funded and may be conducted through any not-for-profit academic, medical or research institution.

Encouraged projects include, but are not limited to:

1. Strategies for early detection and prevention of mesothelioma;
2. Definition of targetable differences between normal and transformed mesothelium and development of novel strategies for treatment taking advantage of these targets;
3. Determination of clinical/molecular determinants for prognosis
4. Therapeutic intervention, including but not limited to:
    a. Immune Response Targeted Therapy
    b. Novel chemotherapeutic compounds
    c. Novel radiation or surgical techniques

Award Amount: $100,000 paid over 2 years
Indirect Costs: None
Application Deadline: Aug 5, 2017
Website:
http://www.curemeso.org/site/c.duIWJfNQKiL8G/b.8578449/k.2D6B/Grants_for_Mesothelioma_Research.htm

12. Inflammation Biomarkers for Parkinson's Disease, Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research (MJFF)

The Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research seeks to support research that will develop new or improve upon existing biomarker tools for neuroinflammation/peripheral inflammation in Parkinson's disease (PD).

The specific goals of this initiative are to:

1. facilitate the development of biomarker measures that can be utilized for novel target validation,
2. assess pathological progression or phenoconversion, or
3. identify inflammation paradigms unique to PD. Proposed biomarkers should facilitate objective decisions to validate a particular target or target efficacy marker (downstream readouts of successful target modification), improve the ability to enrich subject populations in clinical trials and/or determine whether experimental treatments are modifying the course of the disease, its symptoms or its progression.

In addition to facilitating target validation and clinical trial design, biomarkers aid interpretation of trial results, even if the drug fails to demonstrate desired efficacy. Therefore,

MJFF aims to support development of neuroinflammation/inflammation biomarkers to garner knowledge that is critically important to the PD field - from a drug's mechanism of action and its relevance to disease biology to understanding the biological basis underlying patient heterogeneity in drug response. Within the broad scope of inflammation and immune signaling in PD, the Foundation seeks funding proposals utilizing human clinical biosamples or tissues that are focused on the following modalities and subtopics:

Companion Biomarkers

- Validation of novel neuroinflammation/inflammation biomarkers for PD should be evaluated in relation to other established, non-inflammation markers that are meaningful to PD (e.g., alpha-synuclein, GBA, LRRK2, BDNF, etc.), as well as relevant clinical measures of PD (e.g., MDS UPDRS scores)
- Analysis and sharing of clinical data from existing, or proposed studies that will be publically available for research purposes
- Advanced analytics on existing datasets

Immunophenotyping/Phenoconversion/Biochemical Assays

- Identification and validation of a neuroinflammation/peripheral inflammation endophenotype that identifies a specific, chronic inflammation "signature" for PD or that enables quantitative assessment of PD pathology/pathophysiology or disease progression
- Development of target-based, biochemical or genetic assays that could be utilized in clinical trials to select subjects or understand the impact of novel treatments on the proposed mechanism (including development of new assays/assay platforms to analyze tissues or bio fluids or refinement/validation of existing assays)

Impact of aging on inflammation/neuroinflammation and relevance to PD

- As aging is a major risk factor for PD, studies aimed at elucidating how aging may impact immune signaling and thereby modify neuroinflammation/peripheral inflammation pathways in ways that may impinge on neurodegeneration in PD are of exceptional interest

The following types of biomarker studies are not encouraged under this initiative:

- Proposals that do not contain any preliminary data in human biofluids or tissue (novel imagingtracer development projects are a potential exception to this rule)
- Proposals that do not contain validation plans in human biosamples or tissue

Award Amount: Up to $300,000 for 1-2 years
Indirect Costs: 25%
Preliminary Proposal Deadline: May 31, 2017
Website: https://www.michaeljfox.org/research/grant-detail.php?id=32

13. Research-Specific Grants: OREF Clinical Research Grant in Cellular Therapy in honor of James Urbaniak, MD in Collaboration with National Stem Cell Foundation (NSCF), Orthopaedic Research and Education Foundation (OREF)
This Funding Opportunity Announcement solicits investigator-initiated clinical research proposals focusing on adult stem cells (e.g., mesenchymal or adipose-derived). This grant program has been made possible through a partnership with the National Stem Cell Foundation (NSCF) as well as other donors.

Highlighted areas of research focus include the following, although other areas of stem cell therapies may be considered:

- Stem cell therapy approaches for treating musculoskeletal conditions including but not limited to bone, cartilage, intervertebral disc, tendon, ligament, meniscus, muscle, etc.
- Tissue-specific or adult stem cell and related technology therapies (e.g., mesenchymal, adipose-derived, or muscle stem cells).
- Advancing the development of tissue-engineering, regenerative medicine, cellular, or pharmacologic technologies that focus on stem cell therapies for late stage translational or early stage clinical studies.
- Prospective, randomized, and controlled clinical trial to prove or disprove the efficacy of a stem cell therapy for musculoskeletal conditions.

OREF will prioritize submissions involving well-crafted clinical or translational studies. The clinical relevance of all proposals must be clearly noted in the abstract and specific aims and be obvious from the title and the study design. All proposed projects are expected to generate results that have a practical application. It is expected that upon completion of the proposed grant project, the principal investigator will be well poised to pursue NIH/DOD or equivalent funding to carry out larger scale clinical trials in this area.

Award Amount: $800,000 paid over 3 years
Indirect Costs: None
LOI Deadline: May 2, 2017
Website: http://www.oref.org/grants-and-awards/grant-programs/research-specific-grants

14. Translational Research Grant Program (HeART (Help Accelerate RTT Therapeutics)), Rettsyndrome.org (International Rett Syndrome Foundation)
HeART (Help Accelerate RTT Therapeutics) grant awards are designed to promote the development and testing of therapeutics to treat and reverse Rett syndrome (RTT). Awards will be provided for cell-based assay development, early-stage drug discovery and development, early stage medicinal chemistry efforts on high value candidate therapeutics, cell-based screening of candidate therapeutics and follow-on early-stage in vivo testing. Grant applications for exploratory studies towards development of biomarkers or objective clinical outcome measures will also be considered. The goal of this award mechanism is to provide seed funding for early stage drug discovery and development efforts.

Rettsyndrome.org encourages novel research programs that broadly encompass the following areas of unmet need:

- Design, synthesis and testing of potential disease modifying therapeutics to treat or reverse RTT
- Testing of existing therapeutics both in vitro and in vivo to repurpose their use in RTT
- Development and/or validation of in vitro and in vivo models of RTT for therapeutic testing
- Development and/or validation of novel biomarkers for objective clinical trials outcome measures
- Testing of IND-ready therapeutics in pilot clinical trials

Award Amount: $150,000 paid over 2 years
Indirect Costs: 10%
LOI Deadline: May 8, 2017
Website: https://www.rettsyndrome.org/research/funding-opportunities

15. Research Grant Call for Proposals, Saving tiny Hearts Society (StHS)
The Society awards research grants to early stage science with unique hypotheses fostering the next generation of congenital heart defect research creating a strong foundation of preliminary evidence to make scientific advancements.

Priority will be given to well-designed hypothesis driven research that will impact the lives of children and adults living with congenital heart disease.

Award Amount: $75,000 for 1 year
Indirect Costs: None
Proposal Deadline: Jul 15, 2017
Website: http://savingtinyhearts.org/research/

16. Vilcek Prizes for Creative Promise, Vilcek Foundation
The Vilcek Prizes for Creative Promise were established in 2009 as a complement to the Vilcek Prizes, to encourage and support young immigrants who have already demonstrated exceptional achievements, and who often face significant challenges early in their careers. As with the Vilcek Prizes, the Creative Promise Prizes are awarded annually in biomedical science and in a changing category of the arts, this year recognizing accomplishments in the field of architecture.

Vilcek Prizes for Creative Promise in Biomedical Science: The Vilcek Foundation will award prizes to young foreign-born biomedical scientists who demonstrate outstanding early achievement. Eligible work may be in basic, applied, and/or translational biomedical science. A

panel of distinguished jurors - scientists and science/medical writers or editors - will evaluate each application based primarily on the individual's research contributions to progress in biomedical sciences, as demonstrated in the quality and significance of his/her research and publication record. The individuals chosen will have demonstrated exceptional independence and creativity by their 38th birthday. In addition, the applicants will also be judged on their ability to communicate the significance of their research to a scientifically literate audience. The Creative Promise Prize recipients selected by the jury will be scientists whose work best exemplifies the characteristics outlined above.

Award Amount: $50,000 (Note: This is an unrestricted award. There is no obligation to use the money in any particular way.)
Indirect Costs: None
Application Deadline: May 31, 2017
Website: http://www.vilcek.org/prizes/creative-promise/index.html

17. Collaborative Awards in Humanities and Social Science, Wellcome Trust
Collaborative Awards promote the development of new ideas and bring disciplines together to speed the pace of discovery. This scheme funds teams who are tackling ***major health-related questions*** in the humanities and social sciences that require a collaborative approach. Funding can be used to coordinate and integrate activities, build networks, and carry out large-scale potentially interdisciplinary research.

The Wellcome Trust also encourages applications which propose to carry out interdisciplinary research across their Humanities and Social Science, Science and Innovations funding.

Awards can provide funds for:

- research expenses, including research assistance
- travel and subsistence and funding for collaborative activity
- capacity-building initiatives and research leave
- research, symposia and dissemination activities
- research management and support costs, where applicable
- provision for public engagement costs

Award Amount: £1 million-£1.5 million for up to 5 years
Indirect Costs: None
Pre-Application Deadline: Jul 4, 2017
Website: https://wellcome.ac.uk/funding/collaborative-awards-humanities-and-social-science