Massachusetts General Hospital
Corporate & Foundation Relations
Office of Development

PRIVATE FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES: SEP 9, 2016

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.

1. Young Investigator Award, Alliance for Cancer Gene Therapy (ACGT)

The overall objectives of this grant are to advance cell and gene therapy into the causes, treatment and prevention of all types of cancer by promoting development of novel and innovative studies by young investigators. The emphasis of this initiative is to promote basic and pre-clinical research approaches utilizing cells and genes as medicine. ACGT will direct its grants into areas of cell and gene therapy research that have demonstrated great promise. The seven main areas of research ACGT will support are:

1. Tumor-Specific Replicating Viruses and Bacteria
2. Anti-angiogenesis
3. Immune-modulatory Therapy and Cancer Vaccines
4. Oncogene/Suppressor Oncogene/Apoptosis Directed Therapy
5. Tumor Targeting and Vector Development
6. Cancer Stem Cell Directed Therapy
7. Other Gene/Cell based Therapies

Award Amount: $250,000 for up to 3 years
Abstract Deadline: Sep 13, 2016
Website: http://www.acgtfoundation.org/grants-and-research/research-grants/

2. Distinguished Investigator Innovation Grants, American Foundation for Suicide Prevention (AFSP)

AFSP is committed to funding innovative research in all areas related to suicide. Both basic science and applied research projects will be considered, provided that the proposed study has an essential focus on suicide or suicide prevention.

All AFSP research grants are designed to support research on suicide from a variety of disciplines including psychiatry, medicine, psychology, genetics, epidemiology, neurobiology, sociology, nursing, health services administration and many others. Grants are not intended to support the development or implementation of prevention programs, educational programs, treatments, or other interventions that do not have a significant research component.

Grants support studies aimed at increasing the understanding of the causes of suicide and factors related to suicide risk, or that test treatments and other interventions designed to prevent suicide. At least one suicide outcome measure must be included in all grant projects. It also considers studies of treatment feasibility, and studies that add a suicide component (e.g., population or treatment) to an existing grant in another area.

In an effort to stimulate research in understudied areas, it selects priority areas for funding. Priority Areas for 2014-15 are 1) The high risk period following discharge from an inpatient hospital or emergency department or 2) assessment and/or intervention in primary care settings.

Assessing for Gender Identity & Sexual Orientation:
Survey data suggest that individuals who are LGBT are at greater risk for suicide attempts. However, confirmation of this finding is needed across a wider range of samples and using a wider range of data collection methods. In an effort to learn more about this issue the foundation suggests that all AFSP-funded researchers who are collecting original data systematically assess research participants for sexual orientation and gender identity.

Award Amount: $100,000 paid over 2 years
Application Deadline: Nov 15, 2016
Website: https://afsp.org/our-work/research/grant-information/

3. Linked Standard Research Innovation Grants, American Foundation for Suicide Prevention (AFSP)
These grants are awarded to investigators at any level performing research involving two or more unique sites with each site contributing unique expertise, as well as data collection.

This grant mechanism is designed to encourage implementation of a common grant protocol at three or more sites. Applicants must provide a compelling rationale for the linked grant (more than availability of a larger sample size), designate who will be responsible for the overall conduct and quality control of the study, designate who will be responsible for the data analyses, and discuss how the work at the various sites will be coordinated.

All AFSP research grants are designed to support research on suicide from a variety of disciplines including psychiatry, medicine, psychology, genetics, epidemiology, neurobiology, sociology, nursing, health services administration, social work, and many others. Grants are not intended to support the development or implementation of prevention programs, educational programs, treatments, or other interventions that do not have a significant research component.

Survey data suggests that individuals who are LGBT are at greater risk for suicide attempts (Haas, Eliason et al. 2011). However, confirmation of this finding is needed across a wider range of samples and using a wider range of data collection methods. In an effort to learn more about

this issue AFSP suggests that all AFSP-funded researchers who are collecting original data systematically assess research participants for sexual orientation and gender identity.

Award Amount: $300,000 paid over 2 years
LOI Deadline: Sep 15, 2016
Website: https://afsp.org/our-work/research/grant-information/

4. Postdoctoral Research Fellowship Innovation Grants, American Foundation for Suicide Prevention (AFSP)

Fellowships are training grants designed to enable individuals to qualify for independent careers in suicide research. The training can be in either basic or clinical research and must be full-time; that is, Fellows are expected to devote at least 40 hours per week to the training program and may not have any significant clinical or other responsibilities during the funding period.

Fellowships are awarded to individuals who will be receiving training and conducting research at universities and other training institutions in the U.S. and abroad.

AFSP Suicide Research Priority Areas

AFSP is dedicated to funding innovative research in all areas related to suicide. In an effort to stimulate research in understudied areas, AFSP also selects priority areas for funding every two years. In addition, AFSP encourages applications that address the priorities set out by the National Action Alliance for Suicide Prevention's Research Prioritization Task Force. Priority area research applications are reviewed along with the general pool of grant applications, with priority given to strong grants in the designated areas.

AFSP suicide research grants program priority areas for 2014-16

1. The high risk period following discharge from an inpatient hospital or emergency department or
2. Assessment and/or intervention in primary care settings.

AFSP aim to fund at least one to two rigorously designed priority area grants among those awarded in each cycle.

The two-year priority period allows for resubmission of unsuccessful applications in the second year. While AFSP encourages applications in the priority areas, it also encourages and welcome all applications related to preventing suicide. In addition it continues to maintain a strong interest in research related to survivors of suicide loss.

Award Amount: $104,000 paid over 2 years
Application Deadline: Nov 15, 2016
Website: https://afsp.org/our-work/research/grant-information/

5. Standard Research Innovation Grants, American Foundation for Suicide Prevention (AFSP)

AFSP is committed to funding innovative research in all areas related to suicide. Both basic science and applied research projects will be considered, provided that the proposed study has an essential focus on suicide or suicide prevention.

All AFSP research grants are designed to support research on suicide from a variety of disciplines including psychiatry, medicine, psychology, genetics, epidemiology, neurobiology, sociology, nursing, health services administration and many others. Grants are not intended to support the development or implementation of prevention programs, educational programs, treatments, or other interventions that do not have a significant research component.

Grants support studies aimed at increasing the understanding of the causes of suicide and factors related to suicide risk, or that test treatments and other interventions designed to prevent suicide. At least one suicide outcome measure must be included in all grant projects. It also considers studies of treatment feasibility, and studies that add a suicide component (e.g., population or treatment) to an existing grant in another area.

In an effort to stimulate research in understudied areas, it selects priority areas for funding. AFSP suicide research grants program priority areas for 2014-16 are:

- The high risk period following discharge from an inpatient hospital or emergency department
- Assessment and/or intervention in primary care settings.

Assessing for Gender Identity & Sexual Orientation:
Survey data suggest that individuals who are LGBT are at greater risk for suicide attempts. However, confirmation of this finding is needed across a wider range of samples and using a wider range of data collection methods. In an effort to learn more about this issue the foundation suggests that all AFSP-funded researchers who are collecting original data systematically assess research participants for sexual orientation and gender identity.

Award Amount: $100,000 paid over 2 years
Application Deadline: Nov 15, 2016
Website: https://afsp.org/our-work/research/grant-information/

6. Young Investigator Innovation Grants, American Foundation for Suicide Prevention (AFSP)

AFSP is committed to funding innovative research in all areas related to suicide. Both basic science and applied research projects will be considered, provided that the proposed study has an essential focus on suicide or suicide prevention.

All AFSP research grants are designed to support research on suicide from a variety of disciplines including psychiatry, medicine, psychology, genetics, epidemiology, neurobiology, sociology, nursing, health services administration and many others. Grants are not intended to support the development or implementation of prevention programs, educational programs, treatments, or other interventions that do not have a significant research component. An additional purpose of the Young Investigator Grant is to assist new researchers to obtain the advice, guidance and supervision of an established mentor in a selected area of suicide research.

Grants support studies aimed at increasing the understanding of the causes of suicide and factors related to suicide risk, or that test treatments and other interventions designed to prevent suicide. At least one suicide outcome measure must be included in all grant projects. It also considers studies of treatment feasibility, and studies that add a suicide component (e.g., population or treatment) to an existing grant in another area.

In an effort to stimulate research in understudied areas, it selects priority areas for funding. Priority Areas for 2014-15 for 2014-2016 are:

- The high risk period following discharge from an inpatient hospital or emergency department
- Assessment and/or intervention in primary care settings.

Assessing for Gender Identity & Sexual Orientation:
Survey data suggest that individuals who are LGBT are at greater risk for suicide attempts. However, confirmation of this finding is needed across a wider range of samples and using a wider range of data collection methods. In an effort to learn more about this issue the foundation suggests that all AFSP-funded researchers who are collecting original data systematically assess research participants for sexual orientation and gender identity.

Award Amount: $85,000 paid over 2 years
Application Deadline: Nov 15, 2016
Website: https://afsp.org/our-work/research/grant-information/

7. Independent Investigator Awards: Lung Cancer Discovery Award, American Lung Association (ALA)

The ALA offers annual funding opportunities as a part of its Awards and Grants Program. The goals of the Program are as follows:

- To foster laboratory, patient-centered and social-behavioral research designed to prevent and relieve the suffering associated with all lung diseases and corresponding risk factors
- To fund researchers at important crossroads of their careers to gain long-term commitment to lung disease research

The objective of the Lung Cancer Discovery Award is to support clinical, laboratory, epidemiological or any other kind of research projects aimed at:

- Discovering novel approaches in improving clinical methods for the early detection of lung cancer or improving knowledge on the benefits of lung cancer screening
- Developing novel medical treatments, advancing current treatment options or finding a cure for lung cancer.

Projects are expected to have a direct impact on early detection/treatment methods or provide a clear conceptual or experimental foundation for future development. The preference is for studies that are likely to result in patient benefit in the near future.

Award Amount: $200,000 paid over 2 years
LOI Deadline: Oct 3, 2016
Website: http://www.lung.org/our-initiatives/research/awards-and-grant-funding/opportunities.html

8. Countdown to a Cure Initiative: Investment Grants: Bringing Bioengineers to Cure HIV, amfAR, The Foundation for AIDS Research
amfAR's $100 million Countdown to a Cure initiative is aimed at developing the scientific basis of a cure for HIV by the end of 2020. The urgency of amfAR's goal demands that it direct its funding to studies that uncover vital knowledge directly applicable to curing HIV in people living with HIV/AIDS. amfAR expects that this RFP will solicit revolutionary ideas and unconventional approaches that inform, design and evaluate curative interventions.

Persistent reservoirs of virus not cleared by antiretroviral therapy (ART) represent the main barrier to a cure for HIV and, as evidenced by the "Berlin patient," removing the reservoir is one mechanism by which a cure can be accomplished. amfAR intends to fund research that explores all curative approaches, including reservoir removal, as well as other mechanisms that would result in ART-free remission without the risk of transmission for at least five years. amfAR encourage the submission of proposals that explore novel, high-risk, and potentially high-impact ideas.

amfAR's Investment Grants aim to harness technology developed by bioengineers to solve the problems posed by the viral reservoir. Recent advances in nanomachines, synthetic biomarkers, in vivo sensors, multi-omic single cell platforms and other technologies have yet to be evaluated for their usefulness in curing HIV. Investment Grants provide a funding mechanism through which potentially groundbreaking, early stage approaches are encouraged, regardless of risk or scalability, by requiring collaborations between bioengineers and HIV cure scientists.

Applicants must be HIV scientists focusing on cure research and are required to collaborate with bioengineers employing technologies that have the potential to address the specific areas of interest. Bioengineers interested in applying are required to collaborate with HIV cure scientists.

Specific Areas of Interest:
The main barrier to a cure for HIV is the presence of a viral reservoir that persists despite suppressive ART. The majority of the viral reservoir is in CD4+ T cells in the form of provirus--HIV DNA that is integrated into the host genome. To date, there is no single or combined signature of biomarkers that can distinguish the viral reservoir from uninfected cells during suppressive ART. Eliminating or permanently disabling the viral reservoir will result in a cure for HIV. Thus, specific areas of interest are:

- biomarkers or molecular signatures that can distinguish the reservoir from uninfected cells in vivo during suppressive ART
- mechanisms to induce cell death specifically in HIV-infected cells in vivo
- mechanisms to permanently disable the provirus in vivo

The goal of each area of interest is to develop tools that will, at the end of four years, be ready for Phase I clinical trials. Each proposal must address the specific area of interest in vivo in an appropriate animal model. Research plans that do not include an in vivo component will not be reviewed.

Research Plan:
The proposed research plan must be responsive to at least one specific area of interest and delineate all phases of the work for all milestones within that area. Research plans falling outside of the prescribed areas of interest will not be considered. Applicants should ensure that the research plan is written for reviewers who are well-versed in the HIV cure field.

amfAR will not consider iterations of previously tested ideas that resulted in only modest advances or studies that would result in incremental knowledge. Collaborations must be meaningful and capitalize on the verifiable expertise of both parties. This RFP does not fund prevention studies or non-biomedical research-based activities.

Proposal requirements:

- collaborative work plan involving the HIV cure scientist and the bioengineer
- a device, technology or tool that has not been tested in HIV
- in vivo studies in an appropriate animal model
- the use of clinical HIV viral isolates or SIV model viruses if using non-human primates
- the use of clinically relevant tissues and primary cells

Milestones and Tasks:
Investment Grant funds will be distributed in three phases. Advancement to the next phase is dependent on 1) the achievement of a predetermined and mutually agreed upon milestone and 2) on amfAR's research priorities. Provisions can be made and negotiated during the performance period as needed to ensure maximum agility, allow for creativity, and keep pace with innovations in the field. Milestones should be proposed by the investigator at the LOI stage and will be negotiated at the time of notice of award.

amfAR expects that the research plan will be completed in four years and that each phase is allotted a reasonable amount of time to be completed. In order for amfAR to evaluate whether the proposed work is on course for completion during the phase and in line with stated objectives, project metrics will be evaluated through progress reports.

Generally, amfAR expects technology development to be accomplished in Phase I. Phase II should translate that technology in vitro to primary cells and/or tissues. Phase III should test the technology in vivo in an appropriate animal model. However, amfAR understands these milestones can differ significantly depending on the stage at which each technology is beginning. Thus, reasonable milestones outside of that described above will be reviewed.

Award Amount: $1.5 million paid over 4 years
Log-in Credential Request Deadline: Sep 23, 2016
LOI Deadline: Sep 27, 2016
Website: http://www.amfar.org/RFP-Investment-Grants-Bringing-Bioengineers-to-Cure-HIV/?tr=y&auid=16902736

9. Postdoctoral Research Fellowships, Cystinosis Research Foundation
The ultimate goal of the CRF is a cure for cystinosis. The CRF has launched a postdoctoral research fellowship program to attract qualified, promising investigators to establish careers in cystinosis research. The Foundation will support bench, translational and clinical research.

Award Amount: Up to $225,000 paid over 1-3 years
Proposal Deadline: Oct 3, 2016
Website: http://www.cystinosisresearch.org/research/for-researchers/

10. Annual DeGregorio Foundation Award for Cancers of the Esophagus and Stomach, DeGregorio Family Foundation for Stomach and Esophageal Cancer Research and Education
The foundation is pleased to announce the 6th annual funding opportunity for gastroesophageal malignancies. The foundation seeks to promote and facilitate collaborative research on the pathogenesis, early diagnosis, and treatment of upper gastrointestinal malignancies. It supports high quality, innovative, and transformative translational and bench research to improve the understanding of the biology of these diseases, identification of potential novel therapeutic targets, or in the development and evaluation of novel biomarkers for early diagnosis and treatment. Pre-clinical research, basic mechanistic studies, genomic/epigenomic studies, as well as epidemiologic studies may also be supported.

Research projects must not be funded currently under a separate mechanism. Criteria for successful grants are impact, likelihood of completion and making a significant contribution to understanding, diagnosis, or treating gastric or esophageal malignancies. The intention of this award is to provided seed funding for research in upper GI malignancies.

Award Amount: $250,000
Application Deadline: Nov 1, 2016
Website: http://www.degregorio.org/wp/6th-annual-degregorio-foundation-award/

11. Grants: Central Fund - Research Workshops, Suomen Kulttuurirahasto/Finnish Cultural Foundation
Grants are intended for larger, preferably international research groups for interdisciplinary scientific cooperation. The funding enables the workshop leader or leaders to gather a group of ten to twenty researchers, which can include scientists from several fields of science. The group would undertake research into the selected research topic, which would benefit from wider cooperation combining different competences.
Award Amount: €100,000 EUR paid over 2 years
Application Deadline: Oct 31, 2016
Website: http://www.skr.fi/en/grants/grants-available-application/central-fund-application-period-1-31-october/science-workshops

12. Individual Investigator Research Grant, Foundation Fighting Blindness (FFB)
Awards are designed to concentrate research in areas that will have the greatest potential to move towards treatments and cures for the inherited orphan retinal degenerative diseases and dry age-related macular degeneration (dAMD).

The Foundation has identified research priority areas that align with its mission and this targeted open call is to address specific gaps in current retinal disease research. While applications addressing the areas of particular interest below will be given priority, the FFB will also consider proposals for highly novel research that does not fit easily within these goals. The LOI for such a proposal must clearly explain why the research is likely to lead to prevention, treatments or cures.

Research Priority Areas:

1. Novel Medical Therapies (NMT)- Develop drug therapies that retain retinal function and structure in retinal degenerative diseases. This includes the creation and development of improved animal models of human disease, better functional testing of drug effectiveness, and novel drug delivery systems. Applications that target the following areas are of particular interest:
    - Develop pan-disease therapeutics
    - Develop high throughput phenotypic drug screening tools (markers, target, etc) relevant to the human orphan inherited retinal degenerative diseases
2. Gene Therapy (GT) - Develop and optimize viral and/or non-viral gene delivery systems for the treatment of dominant, recessive and X-linked retinal degenerative diseases.

Demonstrate efficacy and safety using pre-clinical models in preparation for human clinical trials. Applications that target the following area s are of particular interest:

- Develop methods of gene delivery that can: target specific retinal cells, efficiently transduce all cells of a given type in the retina, deliver large gene constructs that may contain large coding regions and/or large gene control elements
- Develop clinically relevant approaches for genome editing

3. Cell and Molecular Mechanisms of Retinal Disease (CMM)- Basic research that improves the understanding of the nature and cause of disease in inherited retinal degenerations so that improved therapies for the prevention of vision loss can be developed. Applications that target the following areas are of particular interest:
    - Delineate pathways that link mutations in multiple different genes to common disease mechanisms, with the goal of identifying pan-disease therapeutic targets.
    - Develop and characterize cone-rich and/or non-rodent animal models for the RDD that are relevant to human RDD.
4. Genetics (GE) - Identify disease-causing mutations in inherited retinal disorders, in part by integrating comprehensive genetic testing into routine clinical care. Identify inherited risk factors for age-related macular degeneration (AMD) and the relative contributions of associated genetic and non-genetic factors (e.g. lifestyle), sufficient to incorporate into treatment and preventions. Applications that target the following areas are of particular interest:
    - Develop and validate faster, more accurate and less expensive methods to identify mutations in both known and unknown genes implicated in the orphan inherited retinal degenerative diseases
    - Develop clinically relevant approaches for genome editing
5. Clinical Structure and Function (CL) - Clinical research that develops improved technology and standardizes processes to establish relationships between clinical retina function and retina structure in retinal degenerative diseases and enable s early disease detection. N.B.: If a clinical application focuses on a therapeutic intervention, the application should identify and submit their application using the most relevant RPA for that therapy, such as GT, or NMT, instead of using CL. Applications that target the following areas are of particular interest:
    - Develop and validate diagnostic technology and endpoints for clinical trials, that include, but are not limited to: natural history studies that correlate genotype and phenotype, biomarker identification, improvements in retinal imaging
6. Regenerative Medicine (RM) - Develop strategies that provide functional rescue or replacement of degenerating or dead retinal cells that can lead to the slowing and prevention of vision loss, or the restoration of lost vision

FFB does not support research for neovascular AMD or diabetic retinopathy.

Award Amount: $300,000 paid over 3 years
LOI Deadline: Sep 30, 2016
Website: http://www.blindness.org/apply-for-funding#iirg

13. Accelerate Clinical Trials Grant, Free to Breathe

This funding opportunity is focused on research to investigate strategies and interventions to increase clinical trial accrual to therapeutic lung cancer clinical trials. The goal is to fund pilot research projects that will investigate novel strategies to improve accrual of patients with lung cancer to therapeutic clinical trials by at least 50% within a defined healthcare facility, system or community. Project aims must have specific strategies focused on increasing accrual to cancer trials of lung cancer. Proposals must have a clear vision about how the pilot project, if successful, can be an expanded to other institutions for validation of the intervention or strategy. The intent of Free to Breathe is to fund projects that will be reproducible and implementable to a wider community as well as applicable to other cancer types.

Free to Breathe is a 501(c)(3) partnership of lung cancer survivors, advocates, researchers, healthcare professionals and industry leaders. The partners are united in the belief that every person with lung cancer deserves a cure. Free to Breathe's vision is to double lung cancer survival by 2022. An important component of this vision is to increase the number of lung cancer patients participating in clinical trials.

Free to Breathe is soliciting proposals for pilot research projects that will:

- Systematically examine interventions or strategies that will increase accrual of patients with lung cancer to therapeutic clinical trials.
- Definitively measure effects of the intervention or strategy on clinical trial accrual rates. This could be done either through a randomized, controlled design or comparison to solid historical data from the institution, healthcare system, or community where the study is to be conducted. A clear description of the methodology for measurement must be included in the proposal.
- Have potential for significant impact and application within the clinical setting. Proposals must have a clear vision about how the project, if successful, can be expanded to other institutions for validation of the intervention or strategy. The intent is to fund projects that could be reproducible and implementable to a wider community.
- Emphasize participation of patients with lung cancer. If patients with other cancers are included in the proposed study, separate measures for accrual of patients with lung cancer must be provided.

Please note: Studies that aim to further identify barriers to accrual, without testing clear strategies to address them, will not be considered for this grant.

Proposals must present a clear vision as well as a strategic plan for how the project can be expanded to other institutions for validation of the intervention or strategy.

Award Amount: $100,000 paid over 2 years
Application Deadline: Oct 28, 2016
Website: http://www.freetobreathe.org/research-grants/our-research-grants/accelerate-clinical-trials-grant-competition-2016

14. Edmond J. Safra Core Program for PD Research - Target Advancement Program - Target Validation Awards, Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research (MJFF)
The Target Advancement Program, part of MJFF's annual Edmond J. Safra Core Programs for PD Research, seeks to build conclusive evidence to rationalize biological pathways and targets for Parkinson's disease (PD) therapeutic development. Funding supports projects focused on validating targets that may lead to novel treatments for PD disease modification, treatment of motor or non-motor symptoms or strategies to alleviate drug-induced complications such as levodopa-induced dyskinesia.

Research into PD is providing unprecedented information on biological mechanisms underlying the disease and its treatment. However, a major challenge exists in translating basic research rapidly to promote novel therapeutic development by pharmaceutical and biotech companies. To this end, MJFF believes that promoting critical target validation studies within academic and industry laboratories can help de-risk investments in therapeutic development and ultimately accelerate creation of innovative therapies for PD patients.

Several lines of evidence can help build greater confidence in a target and its potential for therapeutic development:

- Genetic link of the target to PD or evidence of the target's differential expression or activity in PD patients.
- Ability to modulate the target specifically and safely in vivo leading to outcomes indicative of clinical efficacy in patients.
- Independent replication and cross validation of results, including use of multiple whole mammalian PD models.

Proposed research for the Target Advancement Program should focus on filling key translational gaps specific to a particular target. Preference will be given to proposals utilizing experimental systems with high construct and predictive validity to human PD such as patient-derived material and/or animal models utilizing clinically translatable endpoints. For the purposes of this program, `target' may be defined as a specific biological target (gene, protein or other molecular target) as well as neural circuitry based targets.

Types of studies that can be proposed include:

- Demonstration of PD therapeutic relevance of the target by determining the consequences of manipulating its activity/expression in relevant animal models
- Human post-mortem tissue expression studies to determine target distribution patterns and/or target activity in normal and pathological states
- Elucidation of target biology in relevant in vitro, cellular and in vivo models to understand physiological and pathological roles of the target as well as the potential for safety liability (Projects that utilize human-derived tissues where appropriate are encouraged)
- Development of a tool that will support further validation of a target

The Target Advancement Program promotes work through two funding opportunities: Target Validation Awards and Target Optimization Awards.

Target Validation Awards support research characterizing promising, novel, PD-relevant targets or addressing critical remaining validation questions on established PD targets. Awards to evaluate novel targets are well-suited to projects where hypothetical or experimental rationale is compelling for a target's role in PD and study results can make the case for continuing (or discontinuing) a line of research. Priority will be given to proposals for targets that can already demonstrate one or more of the following:

- Genetic association of the target or its pathway to PD etiology, pathophysiology, symptoms or treatment response
- Altered expression or function of the target or its pathway in PD-relevant human tissue
- Clinical trial data implicating that manipulation of the target or target pathway leads to benefits that would have potential impact for PD patients. Awards to continue research on established targets such as alpha-synuclein and LRRK2 are well-suited to projects that tackle important questions hindering therapeutic development of the target such as safety or roles a target may play in relevant PD pathways. As MJFF has made significant investments in several high priority targets, applications on these targets will be considered case-by-case and carefully evaluated against the existing MJFF portfolio.

Award Amount: $100,000
Preliminary Proposal Deadline: Oct 19, 2016
Website: https://www.michaeljfox.org/research/grant-detail.php?id=27

15. Marilyn Hilton Award for Innovation in Multiple Sclerosis Research: Bridging Grants for Physician Scientists (BGPS), Conrad N. Hilton Foundation

The goal of the Marilyn Hilton Award for Innovation in MS Research is to stimulate innovation and advance knowledge that will aid in developing treatments and cures for progressive forms of MS.

The Foundation envisions the Marilyn Hilton Award for Innovation in MS Research as the centerpiece of its MS research funding. The goal of the award is to stimulate innovation and potentially paradigm-shifting research in progressive MS, which may otherwise go unfunded in times of declining funding for research.

The Foundation believes that attracting and retaining the best and brightest young minds into academic research is vitally important to the future of MS research. In this cycle of funding, the Foundation wishes to encourage the work of investigators who are at early stages of their careers, recognizing that young investigators are a wellspring of new ideas and innovation and that funding at an early stage can make a critical difference to a young investigator's career trajectory.

Recognizing the declining participation of physicians engaged in academic biomedical research and the critical need to support physician scientists conducting research on MS, the Foundation is launching the Bridging Grants for Physician Scientists (BGPS) competition to provide bridging awards for physician scientists transitioning from late postdoctoral training to their first early faculty positions at academic health centers or equivalent institutions. Ultimately, the program's goal is to help establish the research careers of junior-level physician-scientists working on MS.

BGPS will provide support to physician scientists (MD and DO) working on MS (who are committed to an academic career) to bridge postdoctoral/fellowship training and the early years of faculty service. Proposals must be in the area of basic biomedical, disease-oriented, or translational research on Multiple Sclerosis. Proposals in health services research or involving large-scale clinical trials are ineligible.

Internal Coordination: Applications must be approved and signed by an official responsible for sponsored programs (generally the grants office, office of research, or office of sponsored programs) at the degree-granting institution where the candidate is a postdoctoral fellow. Candidates should contact one of these offices for an authorized signature before submitting their proposal.

Award Amount: $620,000 paid over 5 years
Application Deadline: Nov 14, 2016
Website: https://www.hiltonfoundation.org/priorities/multiple-sclerosis/award

16. Marilyn Hilton Award for Innovation in Multiple Sclerosis Research: Pilot Innovator Grants, Conrad N. Hilton Foundation New

The goal of the Marilyn Hilton Award for Innovation in MS Research is to stimulate innovation and advance knowledge that will aid in developing treatments and cures for progressive forms of MS.

The Foundation envisions the Marilyn Hilton Award for Innovation in MS Research as the centerpiece of its MS research funding. The goal of the award is to stimulate innovation and potentially paradigm-shifting research in progressive MS, which may otherwise go unfunded in times of declining funding for research.

The Foundation believes that attracting and retaining the best and brightest young minds into academic research is vitally important to the future of MS research. In this cycle of funding, the Foundation wishes to encourage the work of investigators who are at early stages of their careers, recognizing that young investigators are a wellspring of new ideas and innovation and that funding at an early stage can make a critical difference to a young investigator's career trajectory.

Recognizing that the funding environment for investigators at the beginning of their careers continues to present challenges, the Foundation is launching a competition that will provide young investigators pilot grants to explore new lines of research. Goals of this program are:

- To facilitate young investigators to explore innovative new research directions in MS with the potential of high impact;
- To encourage young investigators from other disciplines to apply their expertise to MS;
- To foster new collaborations amongst young investigators aimed at addressing critical problems relating to MS; and
- To provide young investigators with the support needed to collect the preliminary data required to obtain additional multi-year research funding for their projects.

The Foundation has a particular interest in progressive MS, both Primary Progressive MS and Secondary Progressive MS. The Foundation is interested in exploring mechanisms behind disease progression, finding biomarkers for progression, and potential new therapeutic targets. While the Foundation is not strictly limiting the scope of these awards to research into progressive MS, proposals chosen to advance will likely reflect this interest.

Award Amount: Up to $120,000 for 1-2 years
Stage 1 Application Deadline: Nov 14, 2016
Website: https://www.hiltonfoundation.org/priorities/multiple-sclerosis/award

17. Awards for Established Investigators - Pilot Awards, Melanoma Research Alliance (MRA)

MRA announces its eighth annual RFP, soliciting translational research grant applications. The RFP calls for ideas that could lead to high impact near-term clinical application in melanoma detection, prevention, diagnosis, staging, or treatment.

MRA Pilot Awards:
Potentially transformative pilot studies. Pilot proposals are not required to contain extensive preliminary data, but must articulate a clear hypothesis and translational goals.

Special Emphasis Areas:
For the 2016-2017 cycle, proposals in the following areas are of particular interest and will receive special consideration. These can include pre-clinical, clinical, and /or correlative scientific studies:

1. Addressing treatment failures or difficult-to-treat disease, which may include rare melanoma subtypes or metastatic brain disease, by undertaking studies leading to new targets and/or rational treatment approaches
2. Informing logical and optimal combination therapies, therapeutic sequences, or treatment regimens, including defining dose or duration of targeted and /or immunotherapies

3. Developing markers of response, resistance, or risk of recurrence or death i n early stage disease to improve clinical decision - making and speed the development of new melanoma therapies in the neoadjuvant, adjuvant, or advanced setting
4. Identifying new targets, treatments, or biomarkers via the study of exceptional responders/non - responders and/or leveraging data (e.g. clinical, genomics , and immunologic) from within and outside melanoma.

Collaborative Funding Offers:
For outstanding research proposals as determined by peer review that fall outside MRA's funding pay-line, MRA may seek co-funding from the applicant institutions in order to support these proposals. Young Investigator, Established Investigator, and Pilot Awards are eligible for this program. Academic-Industry Partnership Awards and Special Opportunity Awards will not be considered for this program.

Please note: Multiple applications will be accepted from a single institution, provided that each application has a different PI and represents a distinct hypothesis.

Award Amount: $100,000 paid over 2 years
Application Deadline: Oct 21, 2016
Website: http://www.curemelanoma.org/research/request-for-proposals/

18. Longitude Prize, National Endowment for Science, Technology and the Arts (NESTA)
The Prize will reward a competitor that can develop a transformative point-of-care diagnostic test that will conserve antibiotics for future generations and revolutionise the delivery of global healthcare. The test must be accurate, rapid, affordable, easy-to-use and available to anyone, anywhere in the world. It will identify when antibiotics are needed and, if they are, which ones to use.

The test must be a design-locked, optimised prototype which is ready for clinical performance trials in preparation for regulatory approval.

The winning solution must advance Nesta's charitable objectives for public benefit.

The Prize is being supported by Innovate UK, the new name for the Technology Strategy Board, as funding partner.

Award Amount: £8 million GBP
Submission Deadline: Continuous
Website: http://www.longitudeprize.org/

19. OREF & Orthopaedic Trauma Association (OTA) Trauma Research Grant, Orthopaedic Research and Education Foundation (OREF)

The Orthopaedic Research and Education Foundation (OREF) & the Orthopaedic Trauma Association (OTA) In collaboration with Orthopaedic Trauma Association, Society of Military Orthopaedic Surgeons, DePuy Synthes, and Zimmer Biomet

This Funding Opportunity Announcement solicits investigator-initiated research proposals focusing on Orthopaedic Trauma. More than three of every five unintentional injuries that occur annually in the United States are to the musculoskeletal system. Although orthopaedic trauma results in significant disability and substantial financial cost, comprehensive research aimed at addressing these issues are limited. Investigators who have demonstrated a sustained interest in research and excellence in their training are encouraged to apply.

Highlighted areas of research focus include the following, although other areas of orthopaedic trauma will be considered:

- Systemic and healing responses to musculoskeletal trauma in the elderly
- Tissue (bone, tendon, ligament, cartilage) regeneration and repair
- Orthobiologics in post-traumatic conditions
- Mechanical influences on tissue repair
- Compartmental syndrome assessment
- Rehabilitation therapy following traumatic injury
- Development of valid and reliable functional outcome measures for orthopaedic trauma
- Pain management after trauma - systemic vs. local vs. regional vs. multimodal approaches
- Risk factors for 30 day readmissions and their economic impact following treatment for musculoskeletal traumatic conditions
- Creation of quality measures in orthopaedic trauma - Economic impact, associated risk, and outcomes of implants for fracture treatment

OREF and OTA strongly encourage the submission of well-crafted basic, translational, and clinical 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 project, the principal investigator will be well poised to pursue NIH/DOD or the equivalent large-scale funding to continue to advance the area of research.

It is important that the research topic clearly contain relevance to orthopaedic practice. Ultimately, applications are evaluated on whether or not the potential exists for clinical advancements resulting from the knowledge gained at the conclusion of the proposed study.

Award Amount: $289,000 paid over 2 years

Application Deadline: Dec 15, 2016
Website: http://www.oref.org/grants-and-awards/grant-programs/research-specific-grants

20. Collaborative Pediatric Cancer Research Awards Program: Grant Funding Opportunity In Pediatric Oncology - Independent Investigator and Consortium Grant, Rally Foundation for Childhood Cancer Research

Collaborative Pediatric Cancer Research Awards Program members include Rally Foundation, Bear Necessities, Arms Wide Open Childhood Cancer Foundation, and The Truth 365, national non-profit organizations dedicated to eliminating childhood cancer through innovative research in pediatric oncology. Members of the Collaboration may choose to co-fund or individually fund an applicant.

Funding is available for research fellowships. The Collaboration invites proposals for funding of projects in the following areas:

- Basic Science Research
- Clinical Translational Research
- Alternative Therapy Studies (using natural agents, integrated, personalized or holistic approaches)
- Survivorship and Palliative Care Studies

Rally funds research in the following areas:

- Under-studied cancer types
- Innovative approaches to childhood cancer research which could lead to advanced studies or clinical trials
- Studies that are likely to lead to a clinical trial, personalized, alternative, or integrated research proposals
- Quality of life and survivorship research proposals

Award Amount:

- Independent Investigator Research Grants - Grants are for one or two years support. At the end of the award, investigators may apply for additional funding the next grant cycle. Each funded grant will be awarded up to $50,000 per year. This grant includes Young Investigators.
- Consortium Grants (three of more institutions collaborating on a grant-supported research project) - Grants are for one of two years support. At the end of the award investigators may apply for additional funding the next grant cycle. Each funded grant will be awarded up to $100,000 per year.

LOI Deadline: Oct 13, 2016
Website: https://rallyfoundation.org/research/become-a-rally-funded-researcher/

21. Special Initiatives: The Social, Economic and Political Effects of the Affordable Care Act, Russell Sage Foundation (RSF)
The Affordable Care Act (ACA) of 2010 represents the most significant reform of the U.S. health care system in decades. It was enacted with the goals of increasing access to health insurance, enhancing the quality of care and moderating the growth in costs. The new law is likely to have far reaching effects, beyond the way health insurance markets operate and beyond its impact on population health outcomes. It is those other social, economic and political effects of the ACA that the RSF seeks to understand.

This RSF initiative will support innovative social science research on the social, economic and political effects of the Affordable Care Act. The RSF is especially interested in funding analyses that address important questions about the effects of the reform on outcomes such as financial security and family economic well-being, labor supply and demand, participation in other public programs, family and children's outcomes, and differential effects by age, race, ethnicity, nativity, or disability status. The RSF is also interested in research that examines the political effects of the implementation of the the new law, including changes in views about government, support for future government policy changes, or the impact on policy development outside of health care.

Funding is available for secondary analysis of data or for original data collection. The RSF is especially interested projects that propose novel uses of existing data, as well as projects that propose to analyze newly available or underutilized data. Proposals to conduct laboratory or field experiments, in-depth qualitative interviews, and ethnographies are also encouraged. Smaller projects might consist of exploratory fieldwork, a pilot study, or the analysis of existing data. The Foundation encourages methodological variety and inter-disciplinary collaboration. All proposed projects must have well-developed conceptual frameworks and research designs. Analytical models must be specified and research questions and hypotheses (where applicable) must be clearly stated.

The RSF will not fund research on the effects of the ACA on health care delivery or health outcomes (e.g., barriers to implementation, changes in the quality of care and health status, or trends in enrollment and affordability); other funders already do that.

Award Amount: $150,000 for up to 2 years
LOI Deadline: Oct 31, 2016
Website: http://www.russellsage.org/research/social-economic-and-political-effects-affordable-care-act

22. TSFRE Nina Starr Braunwald Research Fellowship, Thoracic Surgery Foundation (TSF)
The fellowship supports a woman resident working in a cardiac surgical clinic or laboratory research program who has not yet completed cardiothoracic surgical training. This award is designed to provide salary and/or direct experimental support for women cardiac surgical

trainees who wish to acquire investigational skills. Although a specific research program is required as the major component of the application, emphasis in making the award is placed on the potential of the applicant, based on prior accomplishments, and the quality of the educational experience for the applicant. Particular emphasis is placed on evidence of supervisory interaction in preparation of the application, the extent to which research training and a productive educational experience is convincingly described, and the training environment. Additional criteria include the probability of successful project completion and an assessment of the importance of the particular educational effort toward the advancement of cardiac surgery.

Award Amount: $60,000 paid over 2 years
Application Deadline: Oct 15, 2016
Website: http://thoracicsurgeryfoundation.org/awards/braunwaldfellowship/

23. TSF Nina Starr Braunwald Research Grant, Thoracic Surgery Foundation (TSF)
The grant provides operational support of original research efforts by women cardiac surgeons who have completed their formal training, and who are seeking initial support and recognition for their research program. This award provides operational funding to support the costs of original research. Preference will be given to either clinic or laboratory based investigations that are judged likely to generate data that will, in turn, facilitate subsequent funding support for the applicant. In making the awards, emphasis will be placed on originality, clear, concise presentation of a logical project, high probability of successful project completion, and importance of the work toward the advancement of cardiac surgery.

Award Amount: $80,000 paid over 2 years
Application Deadline: Oct 15, 2016
Website: http://thoracicsurgeryfoundation.org/awards/braunwald-research-grant/

24. TSF Research Grant, Thoracic Surgery Foundation (TSF)
This award provides operational support of original research efforts by cardiothoracic surgeons who have completed their formal training, and who are seeking initial support and recognition for their research program. Awards are granted to support the work of an early-career cardiothoracic surgeon (within seven years of first faculty appointment at time of application deadline). The STS Research Award designation will be given to the highest-ranking TSF research application awarded by TSF based on merit as judged by a rigorous peer review process. This distinguished designation is funded by the generous support of the STS.

Award Amount: $80,000 paid over 2 years
Application Deadline: Oct 15, 2016
Website: http://tsfre.org/awards/