

**Call for Grants Notification (CGN):
2020 Health Equity Innovations Fund**

Introduction and Purpose

Genentech is committed to the pursuit of groundbreaking science to discover and develop breakthrough medicines for people with serious and life-threatening diseases. We envision a world where all individuals can experience their full potential for health and wellbeing, and a future of science that is more diverse, inclusive, and equitable. As part of this commitment, we are accepting letters of intent (LOI) for the second year of the “**Health Equity¹ Innovations Fund.**” We are pleased to expand our work with new partners and will invite full proposals following our evaluation of the letters of intent.

A robust body of scientific literature illuminates the many drivers of health and wellbeing. A complex array of factors explain differences in health outcomes, including biological and genetic factors, socioeconomic status, including education and employment, physical environment, social support and access to quality healthcare.² Disparities in health outcomes are also rooted in structural and historic factors that continue to impact people’s health. The COVID-19 pandemic has laid bare the drivers behind care disparities - particularly for communities of color³ - and presents a call to action for all to address structural inequities across healthcare and scientific research. The Health Equity Innovations Fund invites proposals to support groundbreaking efforts to address healthcare disparities for historically underserved communities, with a focus on communities of color. This can yield benefits for society as a whole, laying the groundwork for more relevant and widely applicable healthcare solutions, reducing avoidable healthcare spending, and ensuring equitable health outcomes for all people.

Call for Grants Requirements and Aims

This call for grant proposals will support action-oriented research, demonstration projects, and programs to build the evidence base needed to promote health equity and reduce disparities in healthcare access, quality, and outcomes amongst populations facing the greatest needs - particularly communities of color. Funded proposals will develop, test, and/or scale strategies and interventions that reduce disparities and promote health equity. Successful proposals will also support health systems and hospitals, practitioners, advocates, community leaders, patients and caregivers, and decision-makers in setting priorities and allocating resources towards solutions that improve the health and wellbeing of historically underserved patients within Genentech’s disease areas of focus (see below).

The CGN focuses on two aims: 1) advancing inclusive research; 2) promoting equity in care. Successful proposals will align with the aims and sub-objectives outlined below.

Aim 1: Advancing Inclusive Research

Despite greater attention to the topic of increasing representation of communities of color in clinical research over the last decade, few significant advances have been made. In 1997, 92% of participants in clinical trials targeting cancer, central nervous system diseases, and heart disease were White; by 2015, White patients still compromised 85% of participants.⁴ For patients of color, significant barriers persist, including lack of access to quality care and clinical trial options, social and financial burdens, and lack of awareness and trust in clinical research.⁵ To address these disparities, research organizations require greater leadership commitment and accountability to diversity, equity, and inclusion; support for hiring, training, and mentoring diverse faculty and staff; strengthening community engagement and patient support;^{6,7} and re-evaluating study design practices.⁸ Genentech's grantmaking priorities to advance inclusive research are focused on **pioneering, testing, and scaling sustainable approaches** to addressing patient barriers and institutional needs.

Specifically, Genentech will consider proposals that advance the following sub-aims:

- A. Support the development and adoption of sustainable approaches for engaging, enrolling, and retaining communities of color in clinical research
- B. Deepen engagement between communities of color and research organizations, establishing meaningful partnerships and systems for accountability for research to serve the needs of patients of color
- C. Innovate and evaluate strategies to adapt and/or decentralize clinical trials amidst the COVID-19 pandemic, examining the extent to which these efforts improve access and inclusion of communities of color

Strong proposals will align with the following high-level outcomes:

- Increase access, enrollment, and retention of communities of color in clinical research
- Increase in the number of clinical trials that embed effective practices to engage communities of color
- Increase trust, engagement, and partnership between research institutions and communities of color

Aim 2: Promoting Equity in Care

Racial and ethnic disparities in health access and healthcare outcomes are tied to a range of factors, such as social determinants of health, including access and coverage for high quality care, the accumulated effects of trauma, bias and discrimination,⁹ as well as unequal treatment within the healthcare system.¹⁰ Across the therapeutic areas in which Genentech is active, racial and ethnic disparities abound. Black men are more likely to die from prostate cancer than

White men.¹¹ Black and Native American communities experience the highest prevalence of asthma, and Black children die at a rate that is five times higher than White children.¹² Recent studies have demonstrated a higher incidence of multiple sclerosis (MS) in Black patients in comparison to other racial and ethnic groups, and the progression of the disease is more aggressive in Black patients than in White patients.¹³

This grantmaking aim focuses on addressing the role of healthcare in achieving health equity - particularly in **reimagining policies, practices, programs that address the impact of institutional racism and ensure equitable access and continuity of care** for patients across Genentech's areas of focus.

Specifically, Genentech will consider proposals that advance the following sub-aims:

- A. Identify, test, and/or embed innovations in care delivery to improve access, continuity, and quality of care for historically underserved communities, specifically communities of color
 - Note: Proposals specifically exploring care delivery innovation needs presented by the COVID-19 pandemic (e.g., expansion of telemedicine and technology innovation, use of community health workers, reimagining site of care) are encouraged
- B. Deepen engagement between communities of color and hospital and health systems through meaningful partnership and co-created solutions for improving access, quality, and equitable treatment
- C. Strengthen hospital and healthcare system efforts to mitigate the impact of racial bias in healthcare service delivery and eliminate health disparities through
 - Accountability structures and processes for healthcare leadership and practitioners to identify and address bias and racism in healthcare delivery
 - Initiatives that advance individual and institutional capacity to root out racism and embed cultural and structural competency¹⁴ and trauma-informed practices¹⁵
 - Addressing social factors that impede patients' ability to manage their health, engage in care, and adhere to treatment

Strong proposals will align with the following high-level outcomes:

- Improve access to and/or persistence in specialty care for patients of color
- Strengthen patient of color satisfaction with medical encounters (e.g., visits with physicians, experience in the hospital, experience in care)
- Increase trust, engagement, and partnership between hospital / healthcare systems and communities of color
- Develop and strengthen relevant accountability measures to diversity, equity and inclusion across hospital / healthcare systems

Genentech's Areas of Focus

Note: Additional priority will be placed on therapeutic areas in **bold**, which represent areas with significant documented racial disparities in patient outcomes; programs / grants with relevance across disease areas are strongly encouraged:

- Cardiology (specifically acute myocardial infarction and **stroke**)
- Dermatology (specifically chronic spontaneous urticaria)
- Gastroenterology (Crohn's disease, inflammatory bowel disease, and ulcerative colitis)
- Hematology (specifically acute myeloid leukemia, chronic lymphocytic leukemia, hemophilia, lymphoma, **multiple myeloma**, and polycythemia vera)
- Neurology (specifically **Alzheimer's Disease**, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, autism, Huntington's disease, **multiple sclerosis**, Parkinson's disease, spinal muscular atrophy, and **stroke**)
- Oncology (specifically basal cell carcinoma, bladder cancer, **breast cancer**, **colorectal cancer**, **gastric cancer**, **head and neck cancer**, **liver cancer**, **lung cancer**, metastatic melanoma, **prostate cancer**, and thyroid cancer)
- Ophthalmology (specifically **diabetic macular edema**, **diabetic retinopathy**, neuromyelitis optica, retinal vein occlusion, and wet age-related macular degeneration)
- Rheumatology (specifically giant cell arteritis, juvenile idiopathic arthritis, **lupus**, **rheumatoid arthritis**, and systemic sclerosis)
- Respiratory Diseases (specifically **asthma**, **COPD**, cystic fibrosis, and idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis)

Evaluation Criteria, Restrictions, and Application Process

Strong proposals will align with the following high-level characteristics:

- Strong proposals will demonstrate the rigor behind the project, potential to translate findings into actionable change, fill gaps in the evidence base, replicate and lead to lasting systems change
- Clear evaluation, research and/or dissemination strategy associated with the proposal, so that learnings can be shared and scaled with other groups/sectors
- Partnership, including resource allocation, with communities and organizations who understand and are affected by health disparities, where appropriate
- Proposals reflecting a particularly innovative approach or out-of-the box thinking are strongly encouraged
- Organizational commitment to anti-racism and application of values of justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion into practice

Grant Size: Grant awards will range from \$250,000 to \$750,000.

Eligibility Criteria: Applicants must be recognized by the IRS as a tax exempt, public charity under sections 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(6) of the Internal Revenue Code or be a U.S. governmental organization (such as public schools, public colleges and universities, public hospitals, and federally recognized Indian tribal governments).

Geographic Scope: Research projects must be U.S. based.

Grant Period

- Funded projects typically span 12-24 months
- Start date must be January 1, 2021 or later
- Grants cannot be self-renewing

Grantmaking Instructions and Timeline

LOI Process: This call for grants will utilize a Letter of Interest (LOI) process that will require all prospective grantees to complete a short online form and upload a proposal description of up to 5 pages. **Before accessing the form, please read the full LOI instructions below:**

LOI Instructions

1. Read through the CGN to **ensure that your organization and proposed project are eligible for funding from Genentech** and fit within the aims of the CGN
 2. **Download the LOI Form [here](#)** and prepare your answers to all questions *prior* to accessing the form
 3. Once you **compile all necessary information** for the LOI, **complete the form [here](#)**.
 - Once you start the form, you will **not** be able to save your information and return. So please be prepared to complete the entire form
 - All LOI questions are required and must be completed to progress through the form
 4. Once submitted, the **form cannot be changed or modified** in any way
 5. The **LOI Form must be submitted no later than August 10, 2020 at 11:59 p.m. PT**. LOI Forms submitted after the deadline will not be considered
- **Optional Q&A Webinar:** July 22, 2020 12-1 p.m. PDT
 - As part of the LOI process, we are offering a 1-hour webinar for all prospective applicants to answer questions they may have about this Call for Grants. **Participation in the webinar is optional and will not be weighed in the application review process**
 - If you are interested in joining this webinar, please sign up [here](#) by **July 21, 2020**
 - **LOI Deadline:** August 10, 2020 at 11:59 p.m. PT
 - **Notification of LOI Acceptance / Denial:** September 8, 2020

- **Full Proposals completed and submitted by:** October 5, 2020
- **Final approvals and denials** will be communicated no later than the week of December 1, 2020. There have been no predetermined approvals

Funding Restrictions

In order to be eligible for this type of funding, your organization must **not** be:

- A political or sectarian organization
- An individual, group practice, or private physician office
- Owned in whole or in part by a physician or a group of physicians
- A charitable foundation of a small group practice (less than 50 physicians)
- An organization with a written policy to discriminate based on race, religion, gender, gender expression and/or identity, age, national origin, disability, marital status, sexual orientation, military status, or any other protected status

In order to be eligible for this type of funding, the funding must **not** be used for:

- The purpose of developing clinical practice guidelines (e.g., statements that include recommendations intended to help practitioners make appropriate healthcare decisions for specific clinical conditions)
- Religious purpose
- Promotion of a Genentech or Roche product or to influence formulary decisions
- Research and Clinical Trials involving or undertaken in relation to Genentech or Roche products (whether investigational and/or approved for other uses)

For additional information on requirements and restrictions, please visit [funding.gene.com](https://www.funding.gene.com).

Terms and Conditions

1. All grant applications received in response to this CGN will be reviewed in accordance with all Genentech policies and policy guidelines
2. This CGN does not commit Genentech to award a grant or pay any costs incurred in the preparation of a response to this request
3. Genentech reserves the right to approve or deny any or all applications received as a result of this request or to cancel, in part or in its entirety, this CGN
4. Applicants should not respond to this CGN unless they have read and understood the terms, purpose, and requests identified below. Applicants are expected to identify and address issues that are aligned to this CGN

Transparency

Genentech, at its sole discretion, has the right to disclose the details of funded activities, including those that may be required by federal, state, and/or local laws and regulations. This disclosure may include, but shall not be limited to, details of the activity and the grant amount. The information may be disclosed to the public in a manner including, but not limited to, disclosure on the Genentech website.

Support

For additional questions/support, please email give@gene.com.

Genentech also considers applications outside of this CGN. Please refer to the website for additional information on Genentech's giving priorities.

About Genentech

Founded more than 40 years ago, Genentech is a leading biotechnology company that discovers, develops, manufactures and commercializes medicines to treat patients with serious and life-threatening medical conditions. The company, a member of the Roche Group, has headquarters in South San Francisco, California. For additional information about the company, please visit <http://www.gene.com>.

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