Multiple Sclerosis - Research

Issue Date: August 2016

Call for Grant Notification: Genentech Learning and Clinical Integration Team

The Learning and Clinical Integration Team at Genentech, a member of the Roche Group, invites members of the research community to submit applications for innovative research grants subject to the terms described below. This Call for Grants Notification (CGN) provides public notice of the availability of funds in a general topic area for activities for which recognized scientific needs exist and funding is available.

Purpose: As part of our scientific mission, Genentech provides grants for scientific projects and fellowship programs that are aligned with our mission to (1) foster advances in scientific research and discovery; and (2) support advanced study by clinical and research professionals at accredited universities or training institutions. Genentech CGNs are posted on the Genentech website (http://funding.gene.com) along with the several social media outlets. In addition, an email is sent out to all registered users of the Genentech Financial Request System (gFRS) who have previously submitted an application for support of an independent education activity.

Eligibility Criteria: Applicant must be registered on the Genentech Financial Request System (gFRS).

Geographical Scope: The research activity must be U.S.-based only unless specifically identified as a Global Grant.

Submission Instructions:
1. Researchers who meet the eligibility criteria and are interested in submitting a response to this CGN submit applications online through gFRS, which can be accessed via http://funding.gene.com. When submitting the application, please be sure the following are completed:
   a. Select the Therapeutic Area, and the Disease State for the grant(s) that you are submitting.
   b. Include “CGN Aug 2016 [Insert Program Title]” as the program title of the grant application
   c. Complete all sections of the online grant request form
   d. Upload all documentation as requested by the system
   e. Deadline for Submission of Application(s): October, 24th, 2016 (11:59 PM Pacific Time)

Award Decision Date/Mechanism: Approvals and denials will be communicated via standard grant-submission means (email notifications) no later than November 25th, 2016. There have been no pre-determined approvals, nor any identified preferred educational providers. All submissions will be reviewed equally and thoroughly.

Researchers should not respond to this CGN unless they have read and understand the terms, purpose, therapeutic landscape, and research request identified below. Applicants will be expected to identify independent gaps that are scientifically accurate and relevantly aligned to these CGNs.
Background

With recent advances in pathologic and imaging techniques in relation to the diagnosis and disease progression in Multiple Sclerosis (MS) there is a need to redefine our understanding of the disease and its clinical management (1). Understanding and ultimately delaying disease progression through treatment remains the biggest challenges for neurodegenerative diseases, such as MS (2,3).

Methods

Genentech is seeking to support up to 2 research projects designed to improve our understanding of the detection and monitoring of disease progression and innovation in care delivery for patients with MS. The proposed research will be designed to provide quantitative insights into disease progression and care for patients with progressive forms of MS through channels including, but not limited to: a) mechanisms of disease progression; b) clinical methods, tools, and appropriate monitoring practices to detect and monitor disease progression; or c) improvements in care delivery models to support patients with progressive forms of MS. The successful research project may use established technology to implement the project and should demonstrate sustainability after the grant funding has ended.

Measures and Results

Applicants are encouraged to describe how their proposed research would impact the identification of proposed techniques that better identify patients with the risk of advanced disease, accelerating the time it takes for this patient population to receive evidence-based care.

Discussion

Researchers who are awarded approval agree to:

1. Demonstrate key findings via outcomes analysis (please see Measures and Results section immediately above)
2. Summarize (through written analysis) the researcher’s understanding of the metrics, identifying the association between the research and the outcomes, identifying any comparison of the results with findings from other identified publications (if relevant)
3. Identify any unanticipated barriers and research limitations explaining the reasons for them, and describing the efforts that were/are being made to adjust them as necessary
4. Be available for discussion and/or presentation if requested by Genentech’s respective Research Manager

*Genentech is also committed to providing non-solicited grant support in all disease areas.

Additional Considerations
All grant submissions should describe how the proposed research plans to determine the extent to which the initiatives have met the stated objectives and closed the clinical gap(s).

While not required, it is strongly recommended that the results of these research initiatives aim to increase understanding around the elements identified within the chart within this CGN. Genentech will review ways the aforementioned information ties into the following components:

- Research that results in an improvement of quality metrics, quality of care, and/or quality of life
- Research that results in a way to sustainably improve population health for a community
- Additionally, a plan for publishing the results detailing the lessons learned would be welcomed

**Genentech’s Grant Decision-Making Criteria**
Please refer to the publicly available criteria, which can be found at [http://funding.gene.com](http://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 to 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. For compliance reason, and in fairness to all grantees, all communications about this CGN must come exclusively to Genentech’s department for Learning and Clinical Integration. Failure to comply will automatically disqualify grantees.
5. Failure to follow instruction within this CGN may result in a denial.

**Transparency**
Genentech, at its sole discretion, has the right to disclose the details of funded independent research projects, 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.

**References**

