**Issue Date:** [August 10th, 2015]

**Call for Grant Notification:** Genentech Medical Education & Research Grants

The *Medical Education & Research Grants 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](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](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_QOC_August 2015 [Insert Program Title]” in the program title of the grant application
   c. Complete all sections of online grant request form
   d. Upload all documentation as requested by the system
   e. **Deadline for Submission of Application(s):** [September 30th, 2015] (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 [October 30th, 2015]. *There have been no pre-determined approvals, nor any identified preferred researchers. 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.

**Potential applicants should carefully review the funding requirements and restrictions posted on the following webpage prior to starting their application:** [http://www.gene.com/good/grants/scientific-project-support](http://www.gene.com/good/grants/scientific-project-support)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Therapeutic Area and Disease Area</th>
<th>[Improving quality of Care and Unmet Needs in Multiple Sclerosis Patients. (1 research project budget approximately $100,000)]</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**Background**

In Western countries multiple sclerosis (MS) is second only to trauma as cause of chronic neurological disability in young adults. Approximately 15% of MS sufferers have a progressive course from the outset (primary progressive MS); a further 35% develop progressive disease after a variable period with relapsing-remitting course (secondary progressive MS) (1). There is no known cure for MS and the long disease trajectory can impinge on the physical and emotional wellbeing of patients, caregivers and health professionals (1-2).

Identified unmet needs of MS patients include: emotional support, access to services and patient-doctor interaction (2). Several recently published pilot studies using telemedicine or social-cognitive-wellness approaches to mitigate these problems have reported some success (3-7). Nevertheless, many current approaches may only help a sub-population of MS patients, and findings suggest that age, gender and symptom severity all influence patient satisfaction with the available educational and healthcare programs (8).
**Methods**

Genentech is seeking to support 1 research project that will test innovative approaches to improving the care coordination and quality of care of Multiple Sclerosis patients. Broadly descriptive topics of research projects may include: early diagnosis and treatment initiation, efficient symptom monitoring, shared decision-making and other possible areas for improvement. The successful research project should describe how their approach might minimize the burden that MS has on patient quality of life, patient caregiver, and the healthcare provider. Particularly strong grant applications should take into account disease heterogeneity and the diversity of patients affected by MS.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Measures and Results</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Proposals are encouraged to include methods for capturing data concerning quantifiable improvements in quality of care, care coordination, MS exacerbation incidence within the study population and other key variables. Finally, innovative, low cost strategies to identify and eliminate gaps in care that can continue long after grant funding has ended are highly encouraged.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Preference will be given to those grants that demonstrate how:**

1. The proposed research *activated* the patients and/or HCPs to "improve their awareness" about the current problem, purpose and culture of the gap.
2. The proposed research *advanced* the patients and/or HCPs to "convert the information" to demonstrate where and when improvements will be implemented and whether or not these improvements can be replicated.
3. The proposed research *aspired* the patients and/or HCPs to "demonstrate engagement" with interprofessional teams, any system-required metrics (including patient satisfaction scores) that show closure of the treatment gap identifying how it continues to close/evolve over time.
4. [FOR patient educational components] the proposed research *aspired* the patient learners to "demonstrate engagement" with how decisions are made away from the clinic to help improve the treatment gap, and the impact that has on patient sense of control, patient satisfaction, patient interactions with healthcare providers, and any other patient goals.
5. The proposed research indicate the patients and HCPs *adhered* to partnership in communication and sharing of timely data, impacting the delivery of care such as adherence to the jointly decided recommended care plan, an identification of any long-term cost savings, and an identification of advancing care in the future.

**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 Medical Education & Research Grants. 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