

Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences: Research Development and Support 13 May 2019 (#15)

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The NIH funding opportunities listed below are only a **selection** of pre-screened, currently open health funding opportunities for which South African institutions are eligible to apply. For a comprehensive selection of NIH funding opportunities, please visit www.grants.nih.gov or www.sun.ac.za/RDSfunding (current & archive).

Confirm your intent to apply ASAP, but not later than 60 days before the submission date. Tygerberg Campus: cdevries@sun.ac.za • Stellenbosch Campus lizelk@sun.ac.za

# **Important Notices & News**

New FAQs for NIH-MRC U.S.-South Africa Collaborative Research

### Cognitive Systems Analysis of Alzheimer's Disease Genetic and Phenotypic Data (U01 Clinical Trial Not Allowed)

**Letter of Intent:** 30 days prior to the application due date

Application Due Date: Standard dates Apply by 5:00 PM local time of applicant organization.

Hyperlink: PAR-19-269

Funding Opportunity Announcement: This Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) invites applications that propose Artificial Intelligence (AI), Machine Learning (ML), and/or Deep Learning (DL) approaches, collectively referred to here as "cognitive systems," that lead to the identification of gene mutations/variants that cause or contribute to the risk of or protection against the development of Alzheimer's disease (AD) and Alzheimer's disease related dementias (ADRD) via analysis of a variety of genetic, genomic, and biomarker data that are currently available to the research community.

Budget: NIH intends to fund an estimate of 2-6 awards, corresponding to a total of \$4 million, for fiscal year 2020. Future year amounts will depend on annual appropriations. Application budgets are not limited but need to reflect the actual needs of the proposed project. The scope of the proposed project should determine the project period. The maximum project period is 5 years.

## Dissemination and Implementation Research in Health (R01 Clinical Trial Optional)

Letter of Intent: 30 days prior to the application due date

Application Due Date: Standard dates and Standard AIDS dates. Apply by 5:00 PM local time of applicant organization.

Funding Opportunity Announcement: The purpose of this Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) is to support innovative approaches to identifying, understanding, and developing strategies for overcoming barriers to the adoption, adaptation, integration, scale-up and sustainability of evidence-based interventions, tools, policies, and guidelines. Conversely, there is a benefit in understanding circumstances that create a need to stop or reduce ("de-implement") the use of interventions that are ineffective, unproven, low-value, or harmful. In addition, studies to advance dissemination and implementation research methods and measures are encouraged. All applications must be within the scope of the mission of one of the Institutes/Centers listed in the FOA. Budget: Application budgets are not limited but need to reflect the actual needs of the proposed project. The maximum project period is 5 years.

Hyperlink: PAR-19-274

# Dissemination and Implementation Research in Health (Clinical Trial Optional)

Letter of Intent: 30 days prior to the application due date Hyperlink: PAR-19-275

Type: R21 R03

Type: R01

Application Due Date: Standard dates and Standard AIDS dates Apply by 5:00 PM local time of applicant organization. Funding Opportunity Announcement: The purpose of this Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) is to support innovative approaches to identifying, understanding, and developing strategies for overcoming barriers to the adoption, adaptation, integration, scale-up and sustainability of evidence-based interventions, tools, policies, and guidelines. Conversely, there is a benefit in understanding circumstances that create a need to stop or reduce ("de-implement") the use of interventions that are ineffective, unproven, low-value, or harmful. In addition, studies to advance dissemination and implementation research methods and measures are encouraged. All applications must be within scope of the mission of one of the Institutes/Centers listed in the FOA.

Budget: R21 - The combined budget for direct costs for the two-year project period may not exceed \$275,000. No more than \$200,000 may be requested in any single year. R03 - Application budgets are limited to \$50,000 in direct costs per year. The proposed project period must not exceed 2 years.

#### 4. Exploratory Grants in Cancer Epidemiology (Clinical Trial Optional)

Letter of Intent: 30 days prior to the application due date

Hyperlink: PAR-19-277

Type: R21

Application Due Date: June 7, 2019; October 8, 2019; June 8, 2020; October 8, 2020; June 8, 2021; October 8, 2021 . Apply by 5:00 PM local time of applicant organization.

**Funding Opportunity Announcement**: This funding opportunity announcement (FOA) encourages the submission of exploratory/developmental research grant (R21) applications for cancer epidemiologic research. The overarching goal is to provide support to promote the early and conceptual stages of research efforts on novel scientific ideas that have the potential to substantially advance population-based cancer research, such as improving data collection methods, developing and validating methods of exposures and biological effects, such as epigenetics and metabolomics, and their application in population-based research, functional assessment of genetic variants, and assessing recruitment methods for understudied populations.

**Budget**: The combined budget for direct costs for the two-year project period may not exceed \$275,000. No more than \$200,000 may be requested in a single year.

## Exploiting Genome or Epigenome Editing to Functionally Validate Genes or Variants Involved in Substance Use Disorders (Clinical Trial Not Allowed)

Letter of Intent: 30 days prior to the application due date

Hyperlink: PAR-19-278

Type: R21/R33

Application Due Date: June 24, 2019, December 18, 2019, June 24, 2020, December 18, 2020, June 24, 2021, December 17, 2021. Apply

by 5:00 PM local time of applicant organization.

**Funding Opportunity Announcement**: The purpose of this initiative is to support projects which exploit genome or epigenome editing to functionally validate and characterize genes or variants involved in substance use disorder-relevant phenotypes. It is expected that any genetic resources generated will be made broadly available to the scientific community to enable investigation of the relevant neurobiological mechanisms involved and provide critical foundational knowledge for the development of future prevention, diagnostic, and therapeutic strategies.

**Budget**: Application budgets may not exceed \$125,000 per year in direct costs for the R21 phase. Applications may not exceed \$250,000 per year in direct costs for the R33 phase. The R21 phase may not exceed two years, while the R33 phase may not exceed 3 years. The total project period may not exceed 5 years.

### 6. Lucidity in Dementia (Clinical Trial Optional)

Letter of Intent: 30 days prior to the application due date

Hyperlink: RFA-AG-20-016

Type: R21

Application Due Date: February 3, 2020. Apply by 5:00 PM local time of applicant organization.

Funding Opportunity Announcement: Fluctuations in mental status occur commonly in dementia. Such fluctuations vary by dementia type and are most apparent in earlier stages of disease. However, even in late-stage dementia, patients have been reported to exhibit unexpected episodes of mental clarity or lucidity, characterized by spontaneous meaningful and relevant communication at a time when the capacity for coherent speech has presumably been lost. This FOA is intended to advance scientific understanding of lucidity in dementia by supporting an initial set of retrospective and/or prospective studies that will lay the groundwork for further research on this topic. Studies supported by this FOA will use the R21 mechanism to support initial exploratory/developmental aims that will serve as the foundation for future studies. Results from studies supported by this FOA have the potential to broaden our conceptual understanding of Alzheimer's disease and related dementias. Current models of progression and functional decline do not adequately account for spontaneous reversals of cognitive ability - even transiently - in late-stage disease. Further study of lucid episodes in dementia could potentially expand existing paradigms and inform novel approaches for future studies. Greater understanding of lucidity in dementia may also influence families' and caregivers' attitudes and behaviors toward patients with dementia, advance understanding of personhood throughout the course of dementia, and address ethical challenges or decisional conflicts among family members or other proxies who witness lucid episodes. This FOA is intended to advance scientific understanding of lucidity in dementia by supporting an initial set of retrospective and/or prospective studies that will lay the groundwork for further research on this topic. Studies supported by this FOA will use the R21/R33 phased innovation mechanism to support initial exploratory/developmental aims during the R21 phase followed by further expanded aims during the R33 phase.

**Budget**: NIA intends to commit \$2 million in FY 2020 to fund 4-6 awards for this FOA and its companion. R21 - The combined budget for direct costs for the two-year project period may not exceed \$275,000. No more than \$200,000 may be requested in any single year. R21/R33 - Direct costs are limited to \$275,000 over the entire R21 phase, and no more than \$200,000 may be requested in any year of the R21 phase. Direct costs must be no more than \$499,999 per year during the R33 phase. The maximum total project period is 5 years. The R21 phase may be 1-2 years, and the R33 phase may be 3-4 years.

Brief definitions of some NIH grant mechanisms: comprehensive list of extramural grant and cooperative agreement activity codes

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