CAPITAL REGION MEDICAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE 2016 GRANTS PROGRAM

Purpose

The Capital Region Medical Research Institute (CRMRI) is pleased to announce the second round of the 2016 Research Grants Program to fund Capital Region scientists studying innovative treatments or diagnostics, disease prevention strategies and promotion of population health, with a focus on urological health. The goal is to provide initial funding in order to develop new areas of research or new partnerships that have a strong possibility of leading to additional funding from other sources. While this program is primarily intended to support new or young investigators, established investigators may apply if they are moving into new areas of research.

In the first round of applications for 2016, funds were awarded for 3 projects

- An assessment of intra and inter-observer variability in scrotal ultrasound measurement of testicular volume
- The effects of varicocelectomy and selective estrogen receptor modulators on Leydig cell function, as determined by insulin like growth factor 3
- Evaluation of the process and outcomes of care for patients with chronic pelvic pain

Eligibility and Allowable Expenses

Awards will be payable to an institution, university, fund or equivalent organizational entity. Payment will not be made directly to an individual. An individual can only submit one application as the Principal Investigator, but could be a collaborator on other submitted applications.

Eligible organizations must be located within one or more of the following New York State counties: Albany, Columbia, Greene, Fulton, Montgomery, Rensselaer, Saratoga, Schenectady, Schoharie, Warren, Washington.

Funding is only allowable when used to support specific research activities, e.g. blood tests, genetic tests, data collection, statistical analyses. Salary support should not be used for established investigators but may be allocated for fellows, students or research assistants. Other examples of non-allowable expenses include lobbying, tuition/fees, general office supplies, accounting and rent. The CRMRI grants support only direct expenses, with the expectation that the grantee’s institution will provide indirect support as a donation in kind.

Grant Duration and Amount

For this cycle of funding, requests should be limited to projects lasting one year at a cost not to exceed $25,000. The funding period will begin on October 10, 2016.
Grant Application Process

Each applicant must provide the following information in a cover letter to go with the application:

- Name of applicant and title of the research proposal
- Applicant’s Title/Academic rank
- Applicant’s mailing address, telephone number and email address
- Name of Institution/Department where research will be conducted

Grant applications must be prepared using this format and instructions:

- The research proposal section of the application should not exceed 6 pages, with single spacing, at least ½ inch margins on all sides and a font size at least 11. Headings for this section of the application should include:
  - Statement of specific aims
  - Background, including innovation and research gap being addressed
  - Relevant research by the applicant
  - Hypothesis (es)
  - Study design and methodology
  - Plan for analysis of data
  - Potential for future studies/grants based on results

- Additional documents for the application include the following:
  - Budget by basic categories of spending
  - NIH format Biosketch for all investigators
  - Letters of support if relevant, e.g. from mentor, key project partners
  - Ethics committee approval – funding will require appropriate ethical oversight, i.e. IRB approval for human studies, IACUC for animal studies and biosafety approvals as needed.

- The cover letter for the application must also include this statement:
  - I certify that if awarded this grant, I will supervise the spending of the funds in a fiduciary manner consistent with the guidelines of the organization I represent and in accordance with the purpose and terms of the grant. I understand that this project must be completed by the date specified in any potential award letter. I will provide the CRMRI with a detailed accounting of how the funds were spent by the date specified in any potential award letter. No additional funds from the CRMRI will be made available to me should I spend in excess of the grant award. All unused monies will be returned to the CRMRI within 60 days of the end of the grant.

Applications will only be accepted as a Microsoft Word file or a PDF sent to the following email address: crmri@albany.edu. Applications are due at 5 PM EST on September 1, 2016 and will be reviewed by the Research Subcommittee of the CRMRI, with notification of award status by September 22, 2016. Applications that do not meet eligibility, submission, formatting or responsiveness requirements will be administratively withdrawn and will not undergo scientific review.

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