

# DRUG DEVELOPMENT RFP

## FUNDING OPPORTUNITY DESCRIPTION

The Drug Development RFP supports investigational new drug (IND)-enabling studies (or the international equivalent) and early-phase clinical trials that test promising pharmacological interventions and devices for Alzheimer's disease (AD) and related dementias. This funding opportunity concentrates on diverse drug mechanisms and modes of action related to the biology of aging and other emerging therapeutic areas for dementia.

### **ADDF strategic priorities include:**

- Combination therapies of two or more drugs to be administered together or development of combination products. This may include:
  - co-development of two or more new investigational drugs
  - a single new investigational drug in combination with a previously approved anti-amyloid monoclonal antibody
  - fixed combinations of two previously approved drugs
- Disease-modifying and symptomatic agents

### **Stage of development:**

#### 1. Early-stage human clinical trials including:

- Phase 0 micro- or sub-therapeutic-dosing studies
- Phase 1 trials in healthy subjects or patients
- Biomarker-based proof-of-concept studies (generally phase 1b or phase 2a trials) designed to assess target engagement and downstream pharmacologic effects

#### 2. IND (or international equivalent) – enabling studies including:

- Non-GLP and GLP pharmacology and toxicology studies, pre-formulation, and GMP manufacture of API and/or drug product required for regulatory packages. Funding is available for preparation of traditional and exploratory IND (or international equivalent) applications
- Long-term toxicology studies to enable longer-term dosing in phase 2 trials
- GMP manufacturing and testing of API and/or drug product required to move into phase 2 or phase 3 trials

*For clinical trial applications, if IND-enabling work is in progress, funding for clinical studies would be contingent upon an IND (or equivalent) successfully going into effect.*

**Type of therapy:** Novel, repurposed and repositioned drugs, as well as natural products and devices will be considered. Therapeutic modalities of interest include small molecules, peptides, antibodies, gene therapies, antisense oligonucleotides, and stem cells. Other non-pharmacologic interventions, such as diet, meditation, and exercise, will not be considered. A detailed landscape analysis to compare competition related to the mode or mechanism of action is strongly encouraged.

**Drug mechanisms or modes of action:** Novel drug mechanisms and modes of action related to the biology of aging and other emerging therapeutic areas for dementia are considered high priority. These include, but are not limited to:

- Epigenetics
- Inflammation
- Mitochondrial & metabolic function
- Neuroprotection
- Proteostasis
- Synaptic activity and neurotransmitters
- Vascular function
- Other mechanisms and modes of action related to the biology of aging (e.g. senescent cells)
- Other novel mechanisms or modes of action that are supported by compelling evidence demonstrating a rational biological connection to the disease process

**Please note:** Anti-amyloid approaches (e.g., anti-amyloid aggregation, beta-amyloid vaccines, beta- or gamma-secretase inhibitors) and cholinesterase inhibitor proposals will not be considered

## UPCOMING DEADLINES

## ELIGIBILITY

## AWARD INFORMATION

### **Award Amount**

Up to \$5,000,000 based on stage and scope of research. For studies requiring additional support, co-funding from other funding agencies or investors is encouraged. Payment structure will be negotiated and based on milestone achievements and recruitment.

### **Average Duration**

Multi-year

### **Allowable costs**

Only direct costs are allowed. Please review our [Funding Policies](#)

## EXPECTATIONS AND EVALUATION

## APPLICATION SUBMISSIONS

Review the [Application Instructions](#) for steps on applying.

[LOG IN OR CREATE ACCOUNT](#)

### **For inquiries, please contact:**

ADDF Grants and Mission-Related Investments Team

[grants@alzdiscovery.org](mailto:grants@alzdiscovery.org)

# Alzheimer's Drug Discovery Foundation

*A GuideStar-Rated Charity*

57 West 57th Street, Suite 904  
New York, NY 10019  
info@alzdiscovery.org  
212.901.8000

© Copyright 2026. The Alzheimer's Drug Discovery Foundation, a not-for-profit, section 501 (c)(3).

## **Donate**

[Contact Us](#)

[2023 Financials](#)

[Careers](#)

[State Disclosures](#)

[Site Map](#)

[Terms & Conditions](#)

[Privacy Policy](#)