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Requests for Applications

*This is a new program

Transgene-triggered safety concerns in DMD gene therapies

Background and Review Criteria (</science/funding-opportunities/background-and-review-criteria>)

RFA Open: June 10, 2022

Letter of Intent Due: July 11, 2022

Invitations for full applications: July 18, 2022

Application due: August 29, 2022

Start Date: November 1, 2022

Funding:

- The successful applicant will be receive the Christopher Duncan Horn Memorial award for a total of \$200,000 (\$100,000 per year over a two-year period) to conduct the proposed study.

Request for Applications (RFA): The Muscular Dystrophy Association (MDA) will fund a two-year grant to enhance understanding and formulate mitigation strategies for transgene-triggered adverse events. Examples of research that might be supported by this RFA include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Identification of 'at risk' patient genotypes for transgene-triggered responses as it relates to DMD mutation types
- Further investigation into the nature of immunoreactive epitopes in the dystrophin gene

- Re-design of dystrophin transgene therapies to minimize transgene-triggered responses
- Development of immunosuppression strategies to minimize transgene-triggered responses
- In vitro assays and/or models predictive of transgene-triggered immune responses

Who can apply?

To be eligible to apply for an MDA research grant, an applicant must:

- Hold a Doctor of Medicine (M.D.), Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.), Doctor of Science (D.Sc.) or equivalent degree (i.e. D.O.);
- Be a professional or faculty member at an appropriate educational, medical or research institution;
- Be qualified to conduct and mentor a program of original research within his or her own laboratory;
- Have an acceptable research plan for a specific disease in MDA's portfolio;
- Assume both administrative and financial responsibility for the grant; and
- Have access to institutional resources necessary to conduct the proposed research project.
- By the application deadline, applicants must be in compliance with MDA's Good Standing policy and be up to date on any delinquent or incomplete grant deliverable from previously awarded grants. See MDA Research Department Grant Policy Manual for details.

NOTE: To apply for a Research Grant, you must be an independent investigator, i.e., not a trainee, not a post-doctoral fellow, not a research assistant and not under the supervision of another person (Principal Investigator/Independent Investigator) who is directing the research. Foreign investigators are also eligible to apply.

For questions regarding this funding opportunity, please contact Elizabeth Habeeb-Louks at ehabeeblouks@mdausa.org (<mailto:ehabeeblouks@mdausa.org>).

Funding Opportunities

MDA Kickstart Program

MDA Idea Awards

MDA Development Grants (DG)

MDA Research Grants (RG)

MDA Research Infrastructure Grants (RIG)

MDA Clinical Research Grants (CRG)

MDA Clinical Research Network Grants (CRNG)

MDA Conference Grants (CG)

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