

project must address a critical issue that directly involves prevention, assessment and/or outcomes for patients with one or more of the many chronic diseases within the mission of the NIAMS.

*Term/Amount:* The NIAMS intends to commit approximately \$3.6 million in FY 2003 to fund up to three applications responding to this RFA. The applicant should request a project period of five years. The direct costs requested cannot exceed \$800,000 each year (exclusive of facilities and administrative costs of subcontracts with collaborating organizations). Although the financial plans of the NIAMS provide support for this program, awards pursuant to this RFA and future RFAs are contingent upon the availability of funds and the receipt of a sufficient number of meritorious applications. This RFA is the final of three RFAs to establish the new NIAMS MCRC program. Previous RFAs were AR-00-001 for FY 2001 funding and AR-00-004 for FY 2002 funding.

*Contact:* The letter of intent is to be sent to Dr. Julia B. Freeman Centers Program, EP National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases Natcher Building, Room 5AS.19F MSC 6500 Bethesda, MD 20892-6500 Bethesda, MD 20814 (for express/courier service) Telephone: (301) 594-5052 FAX: (301) 480-4543 Email: Julia\_B\_Freeman@nih.gov The research grant application form PHS 398 (rev. 4/98) is to be used in applying for these grants. These forms are available at most institutional offices of sponsored research and may be obtained from the Division of Extramural Outreach and Information Resources, National Institutes of Health, 6701 Rockledge Drive, MSC 7910, Bethesda, MD 20892-7910, telephone 301/435-0714, email: grantsinfo@nih.gov.

*Deadline:* Letter of Intent Receipt Date: February 1, 2002. Application Receipt Date: March 12, 2002.

#### **DIGESTIVE DISEASES RESEARCH DEVELOPMENT CENTERS: DK-01-030**

*Purpose:* The National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases (NIDDK) invites applications for Digestive Diseases Research Development Centers (DDRDCs). These Research Development Centers will support shared research resources, or cores, to be used by groups of NIDDK-funded investigators pursuing research that can be enhanced by the use of those shared resources, but who do not currently have access to a Silvio O. Conte Digestive Diseases Research Core Center. DDRDCs will enhance capabilities for conducting basic, clinical, and/or translational digestive diseases research relevant to the mission of the Division of Digestive Diseases and Nutrition (DDDN), NIDDK. The major purpose of this initiative is to increase the availability of core resources, with the goal of fostering research, collaborations, and new directions in digestive and liver disease research.

*Term/Amount:* The NIDDK will commit \$1.5 million in FY 2003 to fund 3 to 5 new R24 grants in response to this

RFA. An applicant may request a project period of up to 5 years and a budget for direct costs of up to \$350,000 per year, excluding facilities and administrative (F&A) costs on consortium arrangements. Although the financial plans of the NIDDK provide support for this program, awards pursuant to this RFA are contingent upon the availability of funds and the receipt of a sufficient number of applications of outstanding scientific and technical merit.

*Contact:* The letter of intent is to be sent or e-mailed to: Chief, Review Branch Division of Extramural Activities, NIDDK 6707 Democracy Boulevard, Rm. 752 MSC 5452 Bethesda, MD 20892-5452 (for express/courier service: Bethesda, MD 20817) Telephone: (301) 594-8885 FAX: (301) 480-3505 E-mail: fc15y@nih.gov Applications are to be submitted on the grant application form PHS 398 (rev. 4/98) and will be accepted only on or before the receipt date for this RFA, October 29, 2001. Application kits are available at most institutional offices of sponsored research and may be obtained from the Division of Extramural Outreach and Information Resources, National Institutes of Health, 6701 Rockledge Drive, MSC 7910, Bethesda, MD 20892-7910, telephone (301) 435-0714; fax: (301) 480-0525 Email: GrantsInfo@nih.gov. The application is also available at <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/funding/phs398/phs398.html>

*Deadline:* Letter of Intent Receipt Date: September 26, 2001. Application Receipt Date: October 29, 2001.

#### **POLYCYSTIC KIDNEY DISEASE CLINICAL TRIALS NETWORK: DK-01-029**

*Purpose:* The Division of Kidney, Urologic and Hematologic Diseases (DKUHD) of the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases (NIDDK) invites cooperative agreement applications to establish a network to design and implement clinical trials to slow the progressive loss of renal function in polycystic kidney disease (PKD). The Network, consisting of a Data Coordinating Center (DCC) and Participating Clinical Centers (PCCs), will develop and execute both pilot and feasibility trials and a large randomized controlled clinical trial on blockade of the renin-angiotensin axis in patients with PKD.

*Term/Amount:* The NIDDK plans to make four awards for Participating Clinical Centers and one award for a Data Coordinating Center. Approximately \$1,500,000 total cost (direct plus facilities and administrative costs) is expected to be available during year one of the study. In all subsequent years \$3,000,000 will be available under this RFA. It is anticipated that the award for each Participating Clinical Center will be about \$250,000 total cost in year one and \$500,000 total cost in all subsequent years. The award for the Data Coordinating Center will be about \$500,000 total cost in year one and approximately \$1,000,000 total cost in all subsequent years of the program. The number of awards to be made is dependent on the receipt of a sufficient number of applications of high