

COLLABORATIVE STUDIES ON ALZHEIMER AND RELATED DISEASES: RFA-AG-05-006

Purpose: The National Institute on Aging (NIA) and National Institute on Neurological Disorders and Stroke (NINDS) encourage wider use of data and samples generated by grants supported by the institute(s), including the Alzheimer's Disease Centers (ADCs). The purpose of this request for applications (RFA) is to accelerate collaborative cross-disciplinary and multi-institutional approaches that will contribute new and vital information about the clinical and pathologic course of normal aging and the neurodegenerative diseases associated with aging.

This RFA requires the use of data and/or samples from at least three currently funded NIA ADCs, with the possibility of using additional relevant data or samples from outside the centers. The project must use the National Alzheimer's Coordinating Center (NACC) (<<http://www.alz.washington.edu/>>) for expert advice on planning, study design, and statistical analyses and data management during conduct of the research projects. Applicants can be from the ADCs, the Morris K. Udall Centers, or the research community at large. There should be a plan to share data originating from these studies by archiving them at NACC or another appropriate national databank so that other investigators will be able to conduct additional analyses when appropriate. There must also be a plan to encourage sample use after the current study.

This is a research opportunity for scientists both within and outside the ADCs to gain access to unique resources related to Alzheimer's disease, other neurodegenerative diseases, and normal aging and to support collection of new data and samples. Applicants can also propose to use center data and samples to investigate other age-related neurodegenerative diseases, such as vascular dementia, Parkinson's dementia, Lewy body disease, and frontotemporal dementia, as well as study psychiatric symptoms associated with dementia, sociobehavioral aspects of dementia, and management and care of dementia patients.

NINDS is interested in those specific applications, which include the Morris K. Udall Centers of Excellence or other Parkinson's disease (PD) research centers, in the pursuit of those research objectives focused on PD or related parkinsonisms. The PD center need not be located with ADCs, but collaboration with those ADCs with existing samples and data sets focused on PD is required. Specific scientific projects of interest include the use of clinico-pathologic correlations to study the mechanisms of pathogenesis in PD or other parkinsonian conditions, charac-

terization of the pathologic features of these conditions, and the collection of patient data on their associated symptoms.

Term/Amount: This RFA will use the National Institutes of Health (NIH) R01 award mechanism. As an applicant, you will be solely responsible for planning, directing, and executing the proposed project. This RFA is a one-time solicitation. Future unsolicited, competing-continuation applications based on this project will compete with all investigator-initiated applications and will be reviewed according to the customary peer review procedures. The anticipated award date is July 2005. Applications that are not funded in the competition described in this RFA may be resubmitted as new investigator-initiated applications using the standard receipt dates for new applications described in the instructions to the PHS 398 application. This RFA uses just-in-time concepts. It also uses the modular budgeting and the nonmodular budgeting formats (see <<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/funding/modular/modular.htm>>).

Specifically, if you are submitting an application with direct costs in each year of \$250,000 or less, use the modular budget format; otherwise, follow the instructions for nonmodular budget research grant applications. This program does not require cost sharing as defined in the current NIH Grants Policy Statement at <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/policy/nihgps_2003/NIHGPs_Part2.htm>.

Contact: We encourage inquiries concerning this RFA and welcome the opportunity to answer questions from potential applicants. Inquiries may fall into three areas: scientific/research, peer review, and financial or grants management issues. Direct your questions about scientific/research issues, ADCs, and relationships with NACC to: Creighton H. Phelps, PhD, Program Director, Alzheimer's Disease Centers, Neuroscience and Neuropsychology of Aging, National Institute on Aging, Gateway Building, Suite 350, Bethesda, MD 20892-9205; tel: 301-496-9350; fax: 301-496-1494; e-mail: phelpsc@nia.nih.gov. Direct your questions regarding scientific/research issues, PD and related disorders, and Udall Centers to: Diane D. Murphy, PhD, Program Director, Neurodegeneration Group, National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke, NSC Room 2223, 6001 Executive Blvd, Rockville, MD 20852; tel: 301-496-5680; fax: 301-480-1080; e-mail: dm152o@nih.gov. Direct your questions about peer review issues to: Mary Nekola, PhD, Chief Scientific Review Office, National Institute on Aging, Gateway Building, Room 2C212, Bethesda, MD 20892-9205; tel: 301-496-9666; fax: 301-402-0066; e-mail: nekolam@nia.nih.gov. Direct your

questions about financial or grants management matters to: Deborah Stauffer, Lead Grants Management Specialist, Office of Grants and Contract Management, National Institute on Aging, Gateway Building, Room 2N212, Bethesda, MD 20892-9205; tel: 301-496-1472; fax: 301-402-3672; e-mail: stauffed@nia.nih.gov; or Kimberly Campbell, Grants Management Specialist, Grants Management Branch, National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke, 6001 Executive Blvd, Room 3249, Rockville, MD 20892; tel: 301-496-7809; fax: 301-402-0219; e-mail: kc274k@nih.gov.

Deadlines: December 22, 2004. Letter of intent receipt date: November 21, 2004, Application receipt date: December 21, 2004.

MULTIDISCIPLINARY CLINICAL RESEARCH CENTERS: RFA-AR-05-001

Purpose: The National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases (NIAMS) invites new and renewal applications for Multidisciplinary Clinical Research Centers (MCRCs) in arthritis and/or musculoskeletal disorders and/or skin diseases. Each MCRC will be organized around a methodology core and will be expected to include a minimum of three highly meritorious projects encompassing clinical research drawing from different disciplines. The methodology core will be the foundation of the center, providing key support for development and implementation of clinical projects. Each 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: This request for applications (RFA) will use the National Institutes of Health (NIH) P60 award mechanism. As an applicant, you will be solely responsible

for planning, directing, and executing the proposed project. This RFA is the first of three yearly RFAs planned. The earliest anticipated award date in response to this RFA is January 1, 2006. This RFA uses just-in-time concepts. The instructions for nonmodular budget research grant applications should be followed. This program does not require cost sharing as defined in the current NIH Grants Policy Statement at <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/policy/nihgps_2003/NIHGPS_Part2.htm>.

Contact: We encourage inquiries concerning this RFA and welcome the opportunity to answer questions from potential applicants. Inquiries may fall into three areas: scientific/research, peer review, and financial or grants management issues. Direct your questions about scientific/research issues to: Charisee Lamar, PhD, MPH, Multidisciplinary Centers and Diversity Programs, National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases, 6701 Democracy Blvd, Suite 800, MSC 4872, Bethesda, MD 20892-4872; tel: 301-594-5052; fax: 301-480-4543; e-mail: lamarc@mail.nih.gov. Direct your questions about peer review issues to: Tommy Broadwater, PhD, Chief, Review Branch, National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases, 6701 Democracy Blvd, Suite 800, MSC 4872, Bethesda, MD 20892-4872; tel: 301-594-4952; fax: 301-402-2406; e-mail: broadwat@mail.nih.gov. Direct your questions about financial or grants management matters to: Melinda Nelson, Chief, Grants Management Branch, National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases, 6701 Democracy Blvd, Suite 800, MSC 4872, Bethesda, MD 20892-4872; tel: 301-594-3535; fax: 301-480-5450; e-mail: nelsonm@mail.nih.gov.

Deadlines: Letter of intent receipt date: January 24, 2005. Application receipt date: February 24, 2005. Expiration date: February 25, 2005.