Pfizer Announces
2020 Rheumatology
Competitive Grant Program- using External Review Panel

Pfizer Global Medical Grants (GMG) supports the global healthcare community's independent initiatives (e.g., research, quality improvement or education) to improve patient outcomes in areas of unmet medical need that are aligned with Pfizer’s medical and/or scientific strategies.

Pfizer’s GMG competitive grant program involves a publicly posted Request for Proposal (RFP) that provides detail regarding a specific area of interest, sets timelines for review and approval, and uses an external review panel (ERP) to make final grant decisions. Organizations are invited to submit an application addressing the specific gaps in research, practice or care as outlined in the specific RFP.

For all Investigator Sponsored Research (ISRs) and general research grants, the grant requester (and ultimately the grantee) is responsible for the design, implementation, sponsorship, and conduct of the independent initiative supported by the grant, including compliance with any regulatory requirements. Pfizer must not be involved in any aspect of study protocol or project development, nor the conduct or monitoring of the research program.
## Competitive Grant Program Eligibility

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<tr>
<th>Geographic Scope</th>
<th>United States</th>
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### Applicant Eligibility Criteria

- To be eligible:
  - The institution and principal investigator (PI) must be based in one of the eligible countries noted above.
  - Only organizations are eligible to receive grants, not individuals or medical practice groups.
  - The applicant (PI) must have a medical or postdoctoral degree (MD, PhD, or equivalent), an advanced nursing degree (BSN with a MS/PhD), or a degree in Pharmacy, Physiotherapy, or Social Work.
  - Applicant must be affiliated with a host institution
  - Both early career and experienced investigators are encouraged to apply and consideration will be given to all proposals meeting the selection criteria

## Requirements

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date RFP Issued</th>
<th>November 8, 2019</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Clinical Area</td>
<td>Rheumatology</td>
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<tr>
<td>Area of Interest Focus</td>
<td>The intent of this Request for Proposal (RFP) is to support both clinical and basic science research on the pathogenesis and treatment of Rheumatoid Arthritis (RA), Psoriatic Arthritis (PsA), and/or Ankylosing Spondylarthrosis (AS) with a specific focus on projects that are most relevant to improving patient care. All US investigators are encouraged to apply, including young investigators who are in the early stages of their career. Specific areas of interest include: <strong>Rheumatologic Disorders and Diseases</strong></td>
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### SpA
- Understanding the role of JAK-STAT signaling in the pathophysiology or disease progression of spondyloarthropathies (SpA)
- Understanding epidemiology of axSpA including risk factors, spectrum/progression from nr-axSpA to r-axSpA/AS
- Real-world evidence regarding:
  - Efficacy and safety of tofacitinib in PsA as monotherapy vs combination with csDMARDs
  - Efficacy and safety of tofacitinib in nr-axSpA
  - Long-term efficacy and safety of tofacitinib in PsA and r-axSpA
- Evidence for inhibition of structural progression (x-ray) and reduced inflammation (MRI, US) in r-axSpA and PsA
- Response in patient subtypes (e.g., oligo/polyarticular in PsA)/dominant SpA features (e.g., peripheral SpA, uveitis, enthesitis, dactylitis, IBD)

### General (RA, PsA, axSpA)
- Unmet medical need/disease burden - reasons for lack of/under treatment, treatment switch, patient satisfaction, physical and psychosocial disease impact
- Understanding efficacy and safety for tofacitinib, specifically in patients with comorbid conditions
- Approaches to improving management such as: treating to target by monitoring response and adjusting therapy; evidence-based treatment algorithms; factors predictive of response to therapy

### Expected Approximate Monetary Range of Grant Applications
- Individual projects requesting up to $150,000 will be considered.
- The amount of the grant Pfizer will be prepared to fund for any project will depend upon the external review panel’s evaluation of the proposal and costs involved, and will be stated clearly in the approval notification

### Key Dates
- RFP release date: November 8, 2019
- Proposal due date: January 27, 2020
  - Please note the deadline is 23:59 Eastern Time (New York, GMT -5).
- Review of Proposals by ERP: March 2020
- Anticipated Notification Date: by May 2020

**NOTE:** Grant funding will be distributed following execution of fully signed Letter of Agreement. Pfizer considers these terms non-negotiable for grant projects.

### How to Apply
- Please go to [www.cybergrants.com/pfizer/Research](http://www.cybergrants.com/pfizer/Research) and sign in. First-
time users should click “REGISTER NOW”.

Requirements for submission:

- Select the following Competitive Grant Program Name: 2020 I&I L – Rheumatology Competitive Research
- Complete all required sections of the online application. See Appendix A for additional details
- If you encounter any technical difficulties with the website, please click the “Technical Questions” link at the bottom of the page

Questions:

- If you have questions regarding this RFP, please direct them in writing to the Grant Officer, Amanda Solis (Amanda.solis@pfizer.com) with the subject line “2020 I&I L – Rheumatology Competitive Research.”
- Please click here to view Frequently Asked Questions regarding the Competitive Grant Program

Review and Approval Process:

- Grant requests received in response to a specific RFP are reviewed by an external review panel (ERP) to make final grant decisions.
- The panels are comprised of professionals from the medical community with advanced degrees and expertise in particular clinical areas, or specific needs of a geographic region/learner group, or expertise in research, continuing professional development or quality improvement.

Mechanism by which Applicants will be Notified:

- All applicants will be notified via email by the dates noted above
- Applicants may be asked for additional clarification during the review period
Applications will be accepted via the online portal. Full Proposal/Protocol documents should be no longer than 10-15 pages in length (12-point font and 1-inch margins) excluding Organization Detail and References. When uploading your Full Proposal/Protocol please ensure it addresses the following:

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<tr>
<th>Goals and Objectives</th>
<th>• Provide the main goal of the study and the study population (if applicable). Provide a detailed definition that is directly linked to the primary objective</th>
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<td>Assessment of Need for the Project</td>
<td>• This should reflect your study rationale. Provide a brief description of the medical/scientific question and the rationale of how this trial or study addresses the question</td>
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| Target Audience                                                                       | • Describe the primary audience(s) targeted for this project. For Investigator Sponsored Clinical Trials, please specify the age, gender and other demographic information for trial population  
• Also indicate whom you believe will directly benefit from the project outcomes. Describe the overall population size as well as the size of your sample population |
| Project Design and Methods                                                             | • Describe concisely the research design and methods for achieving the stated goals. For a clinical interventional study, include inclusion/exclusion criteria, treatment plan and statistical plan |
| Innovation                                                                            | • Explain what measures you have taken to assure that this project idea is original and does not duplicate other projects. Describe how this project builds upon existing work, pilot projects, or ongoing projects developed either by your institution or other institutions related to this project |
| Evaluation and Outcomes                                                               | • Specify type and frequency of safety, efficacy, and/or outcome measures. Also indicate the method(s) used to assess measures  
• Provide a publication plan describing intended submission of abstracts to (a) congress(es) or intended submission of (a) publication(s) to peer-reviewed journals. All publications must follow ICH guidelines |
| Anticipated Project Timeline                                                          | • Provide an anticipated timeline for your project including project start/end dates |
| Additional Information                                                                | • If there is any additional information you feel Pfizer should be aware of concerning the importance of this project, please summarize here  
• Early-career applicants: Letter(s) of support from mentor(s) and collaborators describing how the award will advance the applicant’s
### Organization Detail

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<th>Organization Detail</th>
<th>career.</th>
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- This information is used to assess the capability of the organizational resources available to perform the effort proposed. Identify the facilities to be used [laboratory, animal, clinical and “other”]. If appropriate, indicate their capacities, pertinent capabilities, relative proximity and extent of availability to the project.

### References

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<td>Bibliography of relevant references.</td>
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