

Summary of Funding Opportunities-Upcoming deadlines-23rd Feb 2017

1. RFA-AI-16-079-NIH, NIAID-R01-Partnership for Development of Vaccines against M.tb infection/Tuberculosis disease

The objective of this FOA is to support milestone-driven research projects focused on establishing proof-of-concept for and/or preclinical development of candidate vaccines against Mtb infection and/or TB. This initiative seeks to facilitate identification of promising lead vaccine candidates and support preclinical development of established leads. For the purpose of this FOA, “candidate vaccine” is defined as a vaccine or related vaccine product (e.g. prime/boost vaccine, therapeutic vaccine, vaccine/adjuvant combinations, etc.); “lead candidate” is defined as a candidate vaccine for which proof-of-concept data have been obtained, and “preclinical development” is defined as all activities beyond lead candidate identification.

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-AI-16-079.html>

Due date: March 02nd 2017

2. Mechanisms of Mycobacterial-Induced Immunity in HIV-Infected and Uninfected Individuals to Inform Innovative Tuberculosis Vaccine Design (R01)

Application due dates: January 11, 2018; January 11, 2019

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-16-254.html>

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-AI-17-003.html> (notice on the FOA)

The objective of research supported in response to this funding opportunity announcement is to support innovative studies to identify and understand the immunological responses that mediate protection from Mtb infection or progression to active TB disease. Such responses may be operative in mycobacterial infection, or following vaccination with BCG or investigational vaccines. Studies elucidating the differential responses in HIV-infected and HIV-uninfected individuals are of particular interest. Research supported under this funding opportunity announcement should go beyond descriptive information currently known about Mtb infection, immune responses to TB vaccines or immune modulation by non-tuberculous mycobacterial (NTM) infection or by HIV/AIDS.

Applications are sought that include characterization of the timing, anatomical location, and contribution to disease outcome of mucosal and/or systemic immune responses to mycobacterial infection and/or vaccination.

3. NIH-NIAID-Partnerships for the Development of Tools to Advance Therapeutic Discovery for Select Antimicrobial-Resistant Gram-Negative Bacteria (R01)

The objective of this FOA is to support milestone-driven projects focused on developing and utilizing novel predictive models and/or research tools and assays aimed at gaining a better understanding of the rules and compound properties governing the penetration and efflux of drug-like small molecules into Gram-negative bacterial pathogens. Responsive projects must focus on one or more of the following Gram-negative bacterial pathogens: carbapenem-resistant Enterobacteriaceae (CRE), MDR *Acinetobacter* and/or MDR *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*. Projects must complete assay/tool/model development prior to the end of the third year of the project period and initiate discovery activities to demonstrate its utility in supporting a corresponding medicinal chemistry program to generate a lead chemical series with demonstrated activity against one or more targeted Gram-negative bacteria. This initiative will also support subsequent preclinical development of a promising lead antibacterial.

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-AI-16-081.html>

Due Date: May 17th 2017

4. DBT-Netherlands call for proposals on Technology for a sustainable health care- minimally invasive techniques

The aim of the call for proposals is to stimulate sustainable Indian-Dutch research collaboration by funding joint research projects in the area of medical devices that have the explicit goal to contribute to a more sustainable health care either in India or in The Netherlands. The aim is to develop innovative technology for a sustainable healthcare system. We define sustainable healthcare as a high quality system that is affordable and accessible for every individual, and affordable and sufficiently staffed for society as a whole.

Three strategic questions to address are:

1. How can technology support health and wellbeing of people in order to help them function and participate in society, outside of organized care? The point is to focus on health rather than healthcare. By focusing on prevention, health and wellbeing you will reduce the need for professional healthcare.
2. How can technology enable care to be delivered closer to home? In many cases it is more cost effective and better for patients to deliver care outside of care institutions. Chronic care should not be managed in hospitals. Rehabilitation should take place closer to home or even at home.
3. How can technology enable more efficient and personalized care? Technology enables us to do more with less. Technology can allow early and individualized diagnosis and prognosis, less invasive treatment and change work processes all together.

Besides providing solutions to above questions, an additional goal is to stimulate the Dutch and Indian research fields of medical devices on: Minimally invasive techniques.

Proposal deadline: 02nd May 2017

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5. The Wellcome Trust/DBT India Alliance and EMBO are looking to fund interdisciplinary meetings that cover the latest developments in research areas underserved in India. These meetings should address discovery and innovation through an interdisciplinary approach, with the speakers and participants discussing important global challenges in the context of the life sciences.

Eligibility

- India | EMBO Symposia must take place in India, but scientists from anywhere in the world are eligible to apply, independent of their nationality.
- India | EMBO Symposia must cover frontier, pioneering and interdisciplinary areas of life sciences that are underserved in India, and include speakers with interdisciplinary expertise. Furthermore, the application should include a list of (mostly) confirmed speakers.

For detailed information on the eligibility criteria, including the format of the meeting, please consult the [application guidelines \(pdf\)](#). For detailed information on the application process, key dates, format of the meeting and required documentation, please consult the [application guidelines](#) or visit [India | EMBO Symposia](#) website.

Application deadlines: 15 February and 15 July 2017

6. Human Frontier Science Program

HFSP supports international scientific collaborations. Research Grants are awarded for innovative research projects involving extensive collaboration among teams of independent scientists working in different countries and in different disciplines.

Two types of grants are available: **Young Investigator Grants** for teams where all members are within 5 years of starting their first independent position (and within 10 years of receiving a PhD) and **Program Grants** for teams of scientists at any stage of their careers.

Applicants must first submit a letter of intent via the HFSP extranet. More details are available in the **GUIDELINES** which you should read before starting an application.

The 2018 competition (application in March 2017 for awards to be announced in March 2018) is now open. Guidelines for 2018 Program and Young Investigator applications are now available. Applications will be made via the HFSP extranet website which will be operational from mid-January 2017 onwards. You must initiate an application (with a 2018 reference number) via the website by **March 20th, 2017**. Submission of Letters of Intent deadline: March 30th, 2017.

Guidelines and Application instructions for the letter of intent

Documents for Grant management

weblink: <http://www.hfsp.org/funding/research-grants/information-and-guidelines>

7. NIH, NICHD-Moving Beyond Standard Assessments: Applying Novel Tools to Assess Human Placental Structure and Function in Real Time

Moving Beyond Standard Assessments: Applying Novel Tools to Assess Human Placental Structure and Function in Real Time

1. RFA-HD-18-004, R21 Exploratory/Developmental Grant
2. RFA-HD-18-003, R01 Research Project Grant-

Due date: March 31st 2017

Scope of Research to be Performed

This FOA is for the development of novel methods for studying the placenta in vivo with the ultimate goal of human use across pregnancy. Special consideration will be given to applications that develop methods that are applicable throughout pregnancy, preferably starting in early gestation during the period of trophoblast invasion and remodeling of the uterine spiral arteries, and which also establish reference values.

The placenta is a dynamic organ which changes over the course of pregnancy. To be helpful, assessments need to yield results within a time frame that reflects the current structural/functional status. However, real-time is not meant to imply instantaneous results.

8. VAJRA-visiting advanced joint research faculty scheme-SERB

Department of Science and Technology announces launching of VAJRA(Visiting Advanced Joint Research) Faculty scheme which enables NRIs and overseas scientific community to participate and contribute to research and development in India.

Public funded academic institutions and national laboratories are eligible to host the VAJRA Faculty. These institutions should appoint them as Adjunct / Visiting Faculty and involve them in co-guiding and mentoring of students and developing collaborative programs. The Faculty can also be allowed to participate in other academic activities as agreed to by the host institution and the Faculty.

For details log on to www.vajra-india.in

9. DST-Swarnajayanti Fellowship

Government of India had instituted a scheme titled “SwarnaJayanti Fellowships” to commemorate India’s fiftieth year of Independence. Under this scheme a selected number of young scientists, with excellent track record, are provided special assistance and support to enable them to pursue research in frontier areas of science and technology. The fellowship is scientist specific and not institution specific, very selective and has close academic monitoring.

NATURE OF SUPPORT:

The support will cover all the requirements for performing the research and will include a fellowship of Rs. 25,000/- per month for five years. The fellowship will be provided in addition to the salary they draw from their parent Institution. In addition to fellowship, grants for equipments, computational facilities, consumables, contingencies, national and international travel and other special requirements, if any, will be covered based on merit.

Due date: April 15th 2017

10. ICMR-Research Council of Norway-Call for proposals-Antimicrobial Resistance

DESCRIPTION

ICMR is soliciting collaborative research projects in the field of antimicrobial resistance. ICMR will fund the Indian component of the studies and will collaborate on this initiative with RCN.

Support will be for a maximum of three years. A similar Call for Proposals has been issued by RCN for Norwegian investigators under this program.

RESEARCH AREAS COVERED

The following broad areas are covered in the call:

- Surveillance systems for antimicrobial resistance and antibiotic use in humans and/or animal population
- Design, implementation and evaluation of antibiotic stewardship programs including intervention studies to promote infection control and clinical practice guidelines in hospitals, primary care and veterinary medicine
- Novel strategies for diagnosis and treatment of infections caused by multidrug-resistance bacteria
- Ecological, evolutionary and molecular properties of antimicrobial resistance

INSTRUCTIONS FOR SUBMITTING PROPOSALS:

Proposals submitted by the Indian investigators should be duly forwarded by the Head of the Institute. Research proposals must be in the ICMR format for adhoc research projects available at www.icmr.nic.in along with a copy of proposal submitted to RCN by Norwegian collaborator and should provide the following details:

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Applicants are requested to send 10 copies of each of the full proposal as per ICMR format and ICMR summary sheet (available at ICMR website) along with necessary documents by **April 26, 2017** to Dr Kamini Walia, Scientist E , Division of Epidemiology and Communicable Diseases, Indian Council of Medical Research, Ansari Nagar, New Delhi 110029.

11. Grand Challenges Exploration-India-2nd call for proposals

Grand Challenges Explorations - India GCE-India (www.gce-india.org) is an opportunity to put yourself on the same platform as GrandChallenges Explorations (GCE) awardees from all over the world, while also leveraging the mentorship, resources and network that all the partner's offer.

If selected, you will be eligible to receive an award of INR 50 lakhs for 18 months, with an additional prize of INR 10 lakh if project milestones are successful and completed on time.

Successful projects will also have the opportunity to apply for a follow-on funds from BIRAC through the BIPP, SBIRI and/or the GCE Phase II program of the Department of Biotechnology, Government of India (DBT), the Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council (BIRAC) & Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

Apart from the funding, PMU-BIRAC and IKP Knowledge Park will closely work with the chosen candidates; provide them technical and business strategy advice, as also access to synergistic networks within the nation and outside; factors that would be critical to making an innovation a medical and commercial success. This Call for Proposals is open to anyone from any discipline from India - from researchers and faculty in colleges/ universities/government laboratories/ institutions to startups and SMEs as well as non-profit organizations. Proposals will be received until **11:59 PM, February 28, 2017 (IST)**.

weblink: http://www.birac.nic.in/webcontent/GCE_Jan_2017.pdf

Scope of GCE-India: Call 2

Ideas to create medical devices, diagnostics, devices and technology enabled delivery systems that will address the health challenges listed below:

Maternal and Child Health

1. Accelerate Development of New Therapies for Childhood Cryptosporidium Infection
2. Addressing Newborn and Infant Gut Health Through Bacteriophage-Mediated Microbiome Engineering
3. Explore New Ways to Measure Brain Development
4. Explore New Ways to Measure Gestational Age
5. Explore New Ways to predict and prevent Birth Asphyxia

Infectious Diseases

6. Novel Approaches to Characterizing and Tracking the Global Burden of Antimicrobial Resistance

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7. Explore New Solutions for Global Health Priority Areas–Develop malaria diagnostics to accelerate toward eradication
8. Explore New Solutions for Global Health Priority Areas –Develop Point-of-care nucleic acid diagnostics \$2 per test
9. Explore New Solutions for Global Health Priority Areas –Enable self-testing for cervicalcancer
10. Novel Enabling Tools and Models Supporting Development of Interventions for EntericDysfunction

12. EMBO Young Investigator call for applications

Through the Young Investigator Programme, European Molecular Biology Organization (EMBO) identifies and supports some of the best young researchers in the life sciences. EMBO Young Investigators are group leaders in the early stages of setting up an independent laboratory in EMBO Member or Associate Member States. They receive financial and practical support for a period of three years to help them develop skills and connections that will help them during this career stage.

The Department of Biotechnology (DBT) is the associate member of EMBO.

Last Date for pre-application: 01st April 2017

web link: <http://www.embo.org/funding-awards/young-investigators/apply#benefits>

13. NIH-NIAID-Systems Biology: The Next Generation for Infectious Diseases (U19)

Due date: March 15, 2017

<https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-AI-16-080.html>

Note: The scope requires that interdisciplinary teams be formed. The research teams may be formed through a consortium of different institutions. Foreign Institutions and components are eligible to apply. NIAID intends to commit \$11 million in FY2018 to fund up to 5 awards.

The objective of this FOA is to establish a network of Systems Biology Centers focused on building predictive models of infectious diseases from hypothesis driven projects that perform large scale data generation, data analysis and integration with statistical inference modeling that will be used to discover predictive markers of disease, health and therapeutic treatment. This effort will also include support for the development of novel and/or enhanced bioinformatics, analytical, computational, and statistical tools. Centers will be expected to develop or improve innovative experimental methods, technologies, bioinformatics and computational tools, machine learning software, and statistical inference methods that can be used by the Centers and the broad infectious diseases community for systems level data analysis.

14. India-Canada-Bilateral call for proposals-Affordable Health Care-DST

On behalf of the Department of Science & Technology(DST) and Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology (MeitY), Government of India, the Global Innovation & Technology Alliance (GITA)will provide funding and other services to Indian project partners and the Canadian International Innovation Program (CIIP), which is co-delivered by Global Affairs Canada (GAC), Trade Commissioner Service and the National Research Council of Canada –Industrial Research Assistance Program (NRC-IRAP),to the Canadian project partners.

Funding support under this Program is in form of “Royalty based Conditional Grant” to Indian Industry and partnering R&D organization/Academic institution for collaborative industrial R&D project. Affordable health care is one of the focus areas. **Last date: May 15th 2017**

To apply, please log on to http://gita.org.in/bilateral_funding_India-Canada.html

15. Newton Fund-call for proposals-women and child health in LMIC

For the second activity under this programme the joint funders are calling for research that will impact the ability to prevent, diagnose and manage prevalent chronic and infectious diseases facing women and their unborn children in low- and middle-income (LMIC) settings. Research addressing these health issues will aim to have a positive effect on the life-course of the mother and her unborn children.

The joint funders have highlighted four priority areas that disproportionately affect women of a low socio-economic status in LMIC countries and which will be the focus of this call. Proposals should only address the following issues:

- **Anaemia (including Iron, Folate and B12 deficiency related conditions)**
- **Sexually transmitted diseases**
- **Gestational diabetes mellitus and**
- **Hypertensive disorders**

It is expected that research will provide evidence on interventions for the prevention, diagnosis and management of the above diseases. Proposals should be multidisciplinary and include social science in order to understand the social, cultural, economic and political factors affecting likely uptake and implementation of these interventions. In line with developments in global health research, it is a particular steer of this call that proposals must engage with the role of both women and men in developing interventions that address the above challenges to ensure the appropriateness and increased likelihood of uptake.

The purpose of this call is to fund projects developed in partnership by researchers from the UK, India and low income countries (LICs) to work together in trilateral research teams. For the purpose of this call, an LIC is those countries that fall into the first two columns of the OECD DAC list available [here](#). Bids must include applicants from eligible institutions from the UK, India and an LIC and the research must be based in an Indian and LIC setting to be eligible.

Deadline: UK researchers should submit by 16:00 UK time on 12th April 2017