

RESEARCH **INK**klings

July 2001 • Medical University of South Carolina • Volume X • No 7

Research *INK*klings goes electronic!

With the July 2001 issue, Research *INK*klings moves to a totally electronic format. The eye-catching salmon pink paper version will move toward the realm of fond memory, along with carbon paper and yellow "second-sheets."

From now on, the monthly newsletter of research funding opportunities and "blurbs" will be delivered simultaneously to everyone with an MUSC e-mail address as a dedicated missive from the Broadcast Mail Manager. The e-mail version will contain headlines that double as hyperlinks to expanded text on-line.

The new electronic delivery approach offers multiple advantages, including (but not limited to): cost savings, rapid delivery, elimination of production lag times, paper-waste reduction, larger audience reach, enhanced reader ability to identify items of greater interest, hyperlinks for immediate access to expanded information, and flexibility to save, print and/or forward items of special interest.

In addition to the email headline version, html, text and pdf versions of the Research *INK*klings will be posted on the Research Web Site. Thus, readers will be able to scan the headlines, browse individual items, and select certain items to print or save, as well as download the entire newsletter and print it out to take along as "trip reading."

For any of you with an undeniable longing for the old style print version, we have a special offer. The electronic version of *INK*klings includes a "click here" feature where you can request a hard copy printed on the familiar salmon pink paper to be delivered by traditional means to your campus mail address. We will manually process these requests when received, as we believe that the demand will be quite manageable and decrease readily as our readers get accustomed to the convenience and flexibility of electronic receipt. An additional "click here" option encourages you to send us additional feedback or questions. ▼

Grant application software demonstration was well received

Dr. Christian Harker, President of Cayuse Inc., visited MUSC on July 5 to give a demonstration on GrantSlam software. This software package offers a systematic format for completing NIH/PHS application, providing all the forms and continuation pages for the PHS398 and PHS2590 formats in one program. The program operates as a database that stores critical information included in the forms, making future use easier each time.

The response to Dr. Harker's demonstration was very positive. More than 80 members of the MUSC research community attended. Several attendees expressed interest in using GrantSlam for a trial period. If you have any questions or interest in this software, visit <<http://www.cayuse.com>> or call the Research Development Office at 792-5828. ▼

DHHS Secretary Thompson renames HCFA

Most people wouldn't compare the Health Care Financing Administration with a rose, but HHS Secretary Tommy Thompson and HCFA Administrator Thomas Scully are trying to change that. Secretary Thompson has been shopping for a new name and image for the agency.

After a five-day contest and 800 suggestions, Thompson has a winner. The new name of the agency is the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. They rejected the Medicare and Medicaid Administration, MAMA, because "women found that acronym insulting." With a new name, the agency will also get a new structure. CMS, as it will be known, will have three divisions. The Center for Medicare Management will handle Medicare, the Center for Beneficiary Choices will handle Medicare+Choice and the Center for Medicaid and State Operations will continue to handle state-federal programs. Several initiatives will also be undertaken to make the agency more user-friendly.

Source: *HABIT* electronic newsletter, June 27, 2001 ▼

MUSC'S GCRC expands research subject protection services

The General Clinical Research Center (GCRC) at MUSC recently appointed two additional staff members whose function is to help investigators comply with federally mandated safety regulations regarding the conduct of clinical research. Funded by the National Center for Research Resources (NCRR) GCRC grant, the new part-time positions respond to recent recommendations from NCRR's Committee for Patient Safety in Clinical Research.

As Medical Director for the Protection of Human Research Subjects, Melissa Henshaw, MD, MS will help investigators develop appropriate data and safety monitoring plans. As Clinical Research Compliance Facilitator, Cynthia Karr, PhD, MT (ASCP) will facilitate investigators' compliance with Institutional Review Board (IRB) policies and procedures.

Dr. Henshaw <henshawm@musc.edu> is Assistant Professor of Pediatrics in the College of Medicine and a recent graduate of the MUSC Clinical Masters Program. She is currently pursuing a Doctorate in Health Administration at MUSC, with a focus on diabetes-related health services research. Her clinical research interests include obesity, type 2 diabetes, and related cardiovascular disease processes.

Dr. Karr <karrc@musc.edu>, an Associate Professor of Medical Laboratory Sciences in the College of Health Professions, serves as Vice-Chair of IRB Three and Chair of the MUSC Research Integrity Committee. She has over 20 years of experience as an IRB reviewer. Drs. Henshaw and Karr will help the GCRC ensure the protection of human research participants while promoting outstanding clinical research activity.

MUSC's General Clinical Research Center (GCRC) has had continuous NIH support since 1977, and was recently renewed for another consecutive 5-year grant period (2001-2006). The Dean of the College of Medicine serves as the Principal Investigator, and Dr. L. Lyndon Key <keyl@musc.edu> has been Program Director since 1993. Key personnel includes Dr. Susan Reed <reedsg@musc.edu>, Chair of the GCRC Advisory Committee, and Vicki Wickman <wickmanv@musc.edu>, MBA, Administrative Director.

For further information about the new services as well as the full text of the document, "Recommendations to the General Clinical Research Centers for Patient Safety in Clinical Research," visit the NCRR GCRC website at <<http://www.ncrr.nih.gov/clinical/crgcrc.htm>> and the MUSC GCRC web site at <<http://www.gcrc.musc.edu>>

Source: MUSC GCRC 



President Bush names physicist John Marburger director of the OSTP

President Bush recent named John Marburger as of the White House Office of Science Technology and Policy (OSTP). Currently, Marburger is director of the U.S. Department of Energy's Brookhaven National Laboratory and president of Brookhaven Science Associates in New York state. Prior to that, he served as president of the State University of New York at Stony Brook for 14 years from 1980 to 1994. Marburger's appointment will have to confirmed by the Senate Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee.

Marburger's biographical sketch highlights the growth in UBS' "federally-sponsored research program, especially in biosciences." According to UBS, during the 1980s, "federally-sponsored scientific research at Stony Brook grew to exceed that of any other public university in the northeastern United States."

The physicist succeeds the Clinton Administration's science adviser and former National Science Foundation Director Neal Lane. Both Lane and Jack Gibbons, who Lane succeeded as science adviser, also are physicists.

Source: Washington Fax, June 26, 2001 

Success rates at NIH institutes and centers are available on-line

Have you ever wondered whether the probability for funding from one area of NIH might be different from another? Have you ever wanted to know the dollar value of an "average" grant from NIH? These data – and much more – are readily available on the NIH Grants Page at <<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/award/award.htm>>.

NIH SUCCESS RATES (%)
RESEARCH PROJECT GRANT PROPOSALS
FY-2000

<i>Institute</i>	<i>New (%)</i>	<i>Renew (%)</i>	<i>All (%)</i>	<i>Institute</i>	<i>New (%)</i>	<i>Renew (%)</i>	<i>All (%)</i>
NIA	24	38	26	NIEHS	26	44	29
NIAAA	27	45	31	NEI	32	57	42
NIAID	30	58	36	FIC	22	50	32
NIAMS	21	43	24	NIGMS	26	56	37
NCI	21	50	26	NHGRI	40	53	44
NICHD	25	50	29	NHLBI	39	55	35
NCCAM	25	n/a	25	NIMH	29	51	32
NIDA	34	51	38	NINDS	32	51	37
NIDCD	36	54	40	NCRR	16	38	18
NIDCR	25	34	27	NINR	30	40	32
NIDDK	26	46	30				
				Total NIH	27	52	32

Source: NIH Office of Extramural Research Grants Page > Awards Data > Success Rates

The Foundation Center observes Funding for Health Month

The Foundation Center recently observed June as Funding for Health Month by assembling a collection of annotated links to health-related funding resources on the Web. The text version is reproduced in this newsletter. To browse the Web version, go to: <<http://fdncenter.org/pnd/health/>>.

To suggest a category or site for inclusion in the Web version, send an e-mail (with the URL of the recommended site) to kjk@fdncenter.org. To sign up for regular e-mail versions of the Philanthropy News Digest, go to <<http://fdncenter.org/newsletters/>>.

The Foundation Center is an independent non-profit organization that provides information and services related to foundation and corporate giving. Funding for Health Month is the first theme-based month declared by the Foundation Center. It will be followed by Non-profits and Technology in September and Celebrating Philanthropy in November. The Foundation Center resource listing for Health Funding is reproduced in its entirety below.

Source: Philanthropy News Digest, June 28, 2001

Health Funding Update

The Foundation Center's 2001 Health Funding Update by Steven Lawrence examines "the growth and distribution of foundation funding for health from the mid-1990s to the start of the new millennium." More information about the article is available from the author, who is Director of Research at the Foundation Center (212-620-4230). The article also can be accessed at no charge at <<http://www.fdncenter.org>>

FC Stats/U.S. Foundations Awarding Grants for Health

This document (downloadable in Adobe Acrobat pdf format) lists the top 50 foundations in the United States that make grants in health. Although the grants are not exclusively for research, the list is a good starting point for investigating foundation funding. <http://www.fdncenter.org/fc_stats/pdf/04_fund_sub/1999/50_found_sub/sub_e_99.pdf>

Reference Collections and Foundation Center Cooperating Collections

The Foundation Center operates reference collections in five cities (New York, San Francisco, Washington, Cleveland and Atlanta) that offer comprehensive information and resources on foundations and grants. Information about these centers is available at <<http://www.fdncenter.org>>

Foundation Center Cooperating Collections

These are institutions and organizations, such as libraries, community foundations and other non-profit entities that make publications of the Foundation Center available through print and electronic media. Cooperating Collections are located across the country. More information about the Cooperating Collections is available at <<http://www.fdncenter.org/collections/>>

Health-Related Resources on the Web

- (1) Aging (<http://fdncenter.org/pnd/health/aging.html>)
- (2) AIDS/HIV Resources (<http://fdncenter.org/pnd/health/aids.html>)
- (3) Alternative and Complementary Medicine Resources (<http://fdncenter.org/pnd/health/alternative.html>)
- (4) Corporate Grantmakers (<http://fdncenter.org/pnd/health/corporate.html>)
- (5) Disabilities (<http://fdncenter.org/pnd/health/disabilities.html>)
- (6) Funding Opportunities (<http://fdncenter.org/pnd/health/disabilities.html>)
- (7) Government Resources (<http://fdncenter.org/pnd/health/government.html>)
- (8) Grantmaking Foundations (<http://fdncenter.org/pnd/health/foundations.html>)
- (9) Health Grantmaker/Grantseeker Resources (<http://fdncenter.org/pnd/health/resources.html>)
- (10) Health News (<http://fdncenter.org/pnd/health/news.html>)
- (11) Healthcare Policy Resources (<http://fdncenter.org/pnd/health/policy.html>)
- (12) International Health Resources (<http://fdncenter.org/pnd/health/international.html>)
- (13) Mental Health Resources (<http://fdncenter.org/pnd/health/mental.html>)
- (14) Minority Health Resources (<http://fdncenter.org/pnd/health/minority.html>)
- (15) Online Indexes and Databases (<http://fdncenter.org/pnd/health/database.html>)
- (16) Substance Abuse Resources (<http://fdncenter.org/pnd/health/substance.html>)
- (17) Veteran Health Resources (<http://fdncenter.org/pnd/health/veteran.html>)
- (18) Women, Children and Family Health Resources (<http://fdncenter.org/pnd/health/women.html>)



- (1) **Aging** - <<http://fdncenter.org/pnd/health/aging.html>>

Administration on Aging - <<http://www.aoa.gov/>>

The AOA, an agency within the Department of Health and Human Services, collaborates with other federal agencies, national organizations, and representatives of business to ensure that their programs and resources are targeted to the elderly

and coordinated with those of its Aging Network. The latter <<http://www.aoa.gov/network.html>> offers a frequently updated list of aging-related resources, including reports, legislation updates, program announcements, and RFPs.

Alliance for Aging Research - <<http://www.agingresearch.org/>>

A D.C.-based nonprofit organization dedicated to improving the health and independence of Americans as they age through public and private funding of medical research and geriatric education. The Alliance also awards a prestigious annual \$200,000 grant for senior-level scientists conducting biomedical and clinical research on aging and co-administers the Paul Beeson Physician Faculty Scholars in Aging Research Program, a \$36 million faculty development program to stimulate research, teaching, and practice of geriatric medicine in the U.S.

American Federation for Aging Research - <<http://www.afar.org/>>

With a mission to promote healthier aging through biomedical research, the American Federation for Aging Research supports both basic and clinical biomedical research into aging and age-related diseases and conditions. During the last 16 years, AFAR has made grants of more than \$39 million to over 1,200 new investigators.

American Geriatrics Society - <<http://www.americangeriatrics.org/>>

The American Geriatrics Society, a professional organization of health-care providers dedicated to improving the health and well being of older adults, has a long history of effecting change in the provision of health care for the aging population and, over the last decade, has become an important force in shaping attitudes, policies, and practices regarding health care for older people.

American Society on Aging - <<http://www.asaging.org/>>

The American Society on Aging is a membership organization dedicated to providing up-to-date information, research, training, and resources to professionals concerned with all aspects of aging. Visitors to the ASA site will find a variety of educational resources, conference listings, training opportunities, a job bank, and information on upcoming events in the field.

Brookdale Foundation Group - <<http://www.ewol.com/brookdale/>>

The New York-based Brookdale Foundation Group, a consortium of the Brookdale Foundation, the Glendale Foundation, and the Ramapo Trust, operates several grants programs aimed at helping the country's elderly population, including the Brookdale National Fellowship Program, the Group Respite Program, and the Relatives as Parents Program.

Gerontological Society of America - <<http://www.geron.org/>>

The mission of this D.C.-based organization is to promote interdisciplinary research in aging by expanding the quantity of and improving the quality of gerontological research. The Society's Web site provides information about a variety of awards, fellowships, and grant opportunities.

Grantmakers in Aging - <<http://www.giaging.org/>>

Grantmakers in Aging, a nonprofit membership organization for staff and trustees of foundation and corporate grantmakers, seeks to aid grantmakers in responding to the needs of the aging American population by providing its members with information and services to encourage grantmaking in the field.

HealthandAge.com - <<http://www.healthandage.com/>>

HealthandAge.com, the Web site of the Novartis Foundation for Gerontology, is an interactive online resource designed to promote interaction between the public and healthcare professionals.

Hospice Foundation of America - <<http://www.hospicefoundation.org/>>

Founded in 1982, the Hospice Foundation of America provides leadership in the development and application of hospice and its philosophy of care with the goal of enhancing the American health-care system and the role of hospice within it.

National Council on the Aging - <<http://www.ncoa.org/>>

NCOA is an association of organizations and professionals dedicated to promoting the dignity, self-determination, well-being, and contributions of older persons. The NCOA Web site features information on the association's surveys, research, and technical assistance and training programs. NCOA recently launched BenefitsCheckUp (<http://www.benefitscheckup.org/>)

), a free, easy-to-use Web service that identifies federal and state assistance programs for older Americans.

Retirement Research Foundation - <<http://www.rtf.org/>>

The Retirement Research Foundation, the nation's largest private foundation devoted solely to serving the needs of older Americans, invests approximately \$9 million a year to support efforts in aging-related research and improve the care of the elderly. In addition to facts about older Americans, visitors to the site will find aging-related news briefs, lists of recent grants, and detailed application information and guidelines.



(2) AIDS/HIV Resources - <<http://fdncenter.org/pnd/health/aids.html>>

AIDS Alliance for Children, Youth, & Families - <<http://www.aids?alliance.org/>>

Founded to help respond to the unique concerns of children, youth, women, and families who are living with, at risk for, or affected by HIV/AIDS, the AIDS Alliance conducts policy research, education, and advocacy on a broad range of HIV/AIDS prevention, care, and research issues. The alliance's membership includes over 500 community-based organizations in 30 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico, as well as individual young people, women, and family members throughout the U.S.

American Foundation for AIDS Research - <<http://www.amfar.org/>>

Funded by contributions from individuals, foundations, and corporations, amfAR, a national nonprofit organization dedicated to the support of HIV/AIDS research, AIDS prevention and treatment education, and the advocacy of sound AIDS-related public policy, has invested nearly \$175 million in support of its mission since 1985 and funded grants to over 1,850 research teams worldwide.

AIDS Vaccine Advocacy Coalition - <<http://www.avac.org/>>

AVAC, a coalition of volunteer advocates located throughout the country, seeks to provide a well-informed, independent critique of current efforts by the U.S. government, the pharmaceutical and biotechnology industries, and other sectors toward developing an HIV vaccine.

Elton John AIDS Foundation - <<http://www.ejaf.org/>>

The Elton John AIDS Foundation was founded in 1992 to provide funding for educational programs targeted at HIV/AIDS prevention and/or the elimination of prejudice and discrimination against HIV/AIDS affected individuals, and for programs that provide services to people living with HIV/AIDS. With offices in Los Angeles and London, the organization's activities encompass a broad spectrum of direct-care services supporting men, woman, young adults, children, infants, minorities, and entire families living with HIV/AIDS.

Funders Concerned About AIDS - <<http://www.fcaids.org/>>

FCAA's mission is "to mobilize philanthropic leadership and resources, domestically and internationally, to eradicate the HIV/AIDS pandemic and to address its social and economic consequences." FCAA provides a range of programs and services for domestic and international grantmakers working on HIV/AIDS exclusively and in program areas closely related to HIV/AIDS.

Gay Men's Health Crisis - <<http://www.gmhc.org/>>

Now twenty years old, Gay Men's Health Crisis provides compassionate care to New Yorkers with AIDS; educates to keep people healthy; and advocates for fair and effective HIV/AIDS policies. With a budget of \$22 million, GMHC assists more than 11,000 clients annually and has more than 6,600 volunteers and 169 staff.

National AIDS Fund - <<http://www.aidsfund.org/java.htm>>

The National AIDS Fund provides financial support to combat the AIDS epidemic - nearly \$80 million over the last decade — along with technical and advocacy assistance, to partnerships in communities where no such support previously existed.

National Minority AIDS Council - <<http://www.nmac.org/welcome.htm>>

Established in 1987, the National Minority AIDS Council is dedicated to developing leadership within communities of color to address the challenge of HIV/AIDS. The organization advocates to increase federal resources directed to addressing the epidemic among people of color; sponsors regional policy and advocacy skills training and technical assistance sessions for people of color; holds policy briefings on Capitol Hill; produces policy briefs and newsletters; and works in coalition with other national AIDS groups to promote the interests of people of color.

UNAIDS - <<http://www.unaids.org/>>

The Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) brings together the efforts of United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Food Programme (UNFPA), the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the World Health Organization (WHO), and the World Bank to lead, strengthen, and support an expanded response to prevent the spread of HIV/AIDS; to provide care and support for those infected and affected by the disease; to reduce the vulnerability of individuals and communities to HIV/AIDS; and to alleviate the socioeconomic and human impact of the epidemic.



(3) Alternative and Complementary Medicine Resources - <<http://fdncenter.org/pnd/health/alternative.html>>

National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine - <<http://nccam.nih.gov/>>

NCCAM was established by Congress in 1998 to stimulate, develop, and support research on complementary and alternative medicine (CAM) and to advocate for open and objective inquiry into which CAM practices work, which do not, and why.

National Foundation for Alternative Medicine - <<http://www.nfam.org/>>

NFAM works to publicize information about life-saving medical treatments that are as effective or better than conventional medical procedures. The organization seeks out effective alternative and complementary medical treatments not easily accessible or currently available in the United States, evaluates the protocols and outcomes of these treatments, and reports the findings to the general public.

Office of Cancer Complementary and Alternative Medicine (OCCAM) - <<http://www.cancer.gov/occam/>>

The Office of Cancer Complementary and Alternative Medicine was established in 1998 to coordinate and enhance the activities of the National Cancer Institute in the arena of complementary and alternative medicine (CAM). OCCAM's mission is to support the development of high-quality CAM cancer research; coordinate the NCI's collaborations with the National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine; facilitate the development of a prospective agenda for NCI-supported CAM cancer research; and provide an interface for the NCI with the general public, health practitioner communities, and research communities regarding CAM cancer issues



(4) Corporate Grantmakers - <>

Abbott Laboratories Fund - <http://abbott.com/community/lab_fund.html>

The Illinois-based Abbott Laboratories Fund provides support through cash grants to U.S.-based recipients the areas of health and welfare, education, arts and culture, and civic and public policy. The fund's contributions are restricted to areas in which Abbott has an immediate or long-range interest and relevant expertise.

Baxter Allegiance Foundation - <<http://www.baxter.com/investors/citizenship/index.html>>

The Illinois-based Baxter Allegiance Foundation supports health care organizations that address a broad national need, with an emphasis on initiatives that have an effect on increasing access to health care services.

Bristol-Myers Squibb Foundation - <<http://www.bms.com/aboutbms/founda/data/>>

The Bristol-Myers Squibb Foundation supports a broad range of programs and initiatives that address important health and

social issues around the world. These include an Unrestricted Biomedical Research Grants Program and Distinguished Achievement Awards in the areas of cancer, cardiovascular, infectious disease, metabolic disease, neuroscience, nutrition, and orthopaedics; a Women's Health Education Program; SECURE THE FUTURE, a \$115 million, five-year commitment to address the problem of HIV/AIDS among women and children in southern and western Africa; donations of pharmaceutical products to people in need in developing countries and to victims of natural disasters and civil unrest throughout the world; and contributions to community organizations in countries and localities where Bristol-Myers Squibb maintains offices, manufacturing facilities, and research centers

Eli Lilly & Company - <<http://www.lilly.com/about/community/foundation/>>

The Indianapolis-based Eli Lilly and Company Foundation (not to be confused with the Lilly Endowment, a private endowment established in 1937 by members of the Lilly family), supports charitable causes and organizations through product donations, matching gifts, and discretionary gifts. The foundation's discretionary gift program is organized into two broad categories: company-aligned, with a focus on public policy research, health and human services aligned with major therapeutic interests, and academic relations; and community-aligned giving, with a focus on culture, education and youth development, community development, locally-aligned health care organizations, fencerow neighborhood groups, and diversity.

GlaxoSmithKline - <<http://www.gsk.com/>>

GlaxoSmithKline, one of the largest pharmaceutical companies in the world, supports projects that are innovative, sustainable, and produce tangible results in communities where it has a presence. The company's current initiatives include a multisectoral HIV/AIDS collaboration with four other pharmaceutical companies (Boehringer Ingelheim, Bristol-Myers Squibb, Hoffman La Roche, and Merck) and five international agencies (UNAIDS, UNICEF, UNFPA, the World Bank, and the World Health Organization) under the auspices of the International Partnership Against AIDS in Africa initiative (IPAA); a Global Programme to Eliminate Lymphatic Filariasis (also known as elephantiasis); Action TB, a coordinated research program aimed at finding new targets for anti-TB therapies and identifying novel vaccine candidates; and a controlled donation programme for Malarone, an anti-malarial medicine.

Hoffmann-La Roche Inc. - <<http://www.rocheusa.com/about/responsibility.html>>

New Jersey-based Hoffmann-La Roche seeks to "enhance the quality of life for [its] employees and residents of the communities where [it] has a significant presence or interest" through giving and in-kind donations in the areas of education and health promotion, with an emphasis on cardiology, dermatology, infectious diseases, metabolic diseases, neurology, oncology, transplantation, and virology/HIV.

Johnson & Johnson Corporate Giving Program - <http://www.jnj.com/who_is_jnj/sr_index.html>

The philanthropic activities of New Jersey-based Johnson & Johnson emphasize programs and activities that assist mothers and children. In 2000, the company contributed more than \$217 in cash and product contributions to U.S.-based and international organizations. Most of that support, however, was directed to specific organizations and programs. As a result, the company does not accept or respond to unsolicited proposals. For details of the J&J's philanthropic activities, see its Worldwide Contributions Program Annual report (27 pages, PDF): <http://www.jnj.com/who_is_jnj/2000_contributions/2000_contributions.pdf>

Medtronic Foundation - <<http://www.medtronic.com/foundation/index.html>>

The Medtronic Foundation, the principal worldwide philanthropic and community affairs vehicle of Minneapolis-based Medtronic, Inc., supports nonprofit organizations and activities in three areas: education, health, and community affairs. In all three areas, priority is given "to programs that benefit people of color and those who are socio-Economically disadvantaged." The company's Web site offers program descriptions, guidelines and application procedures, a downloadable application form, and a list of recent foundation grants.

Merck Company Foundation - <<http://www.merck.com/overview/philanthropy/>>

Established in 1957, the Merck Company Foundation is pharmaceutical giant Merck & Co.'s chief source of funding support to qualified nonprofits, and as such works to advance the company's interests in supporting biomedical science training and education and improving health care worldwide. For details about the company's philanthropic activities, see the

Merck Corporate Philanthropy Report (17 pages, PDF): <<http://www.merck.com/overview/philanthropy/mcpr.pdf>>

Pfizer Inc. - <<http://www.pfizer.com/pfizerinc/philanthropy/>>

Through its corporate philanthropy programs and the Pfizer Foundation, New York City-based Pfizer Inc. promotes access to quality health care for those most in need, particularly the urban and rural poor, in communities where it has a presence. In the area of health, the company's current initiatives include a partnership with the Edna McConnell Clark Foundation to eliminate trachoma, the world's leading cause of preventable blindness; a Community Health Ventures program designed to help community health centers deliver high-quality care to patients in need; and a worldwide disaster relief program.

(5) Disabilities - <<http://fdncenter.org/pnd/health/disabilities.html>>

disAbility.gov - <<http://www.disability.gov/>>

Created to mark the 10th anniversary of the signing of the Americans with Disabilities Act, disAbility.gov provides one-stop access to federal government resources, services, and information for people with disabilities.

Institute for Independent Living - <<http://www.independentliving.org/>>

Through information, training materials, and technical assistance, the Stockholm-based Institute for Independent Living works with other organizations to promote the opportunities of persons with disabilities to gain personal and political power, self-determination, full participation, and equality.

National Center for the Dissemination of Disability Research - <<http://www.ncddr.org/>>

NCDDR funds research projects on all aspects of disability, including employment outcomes research, health and function research, and independent living and community integration research.

National Council on Disability - <<http://www.ncd.gov/>>

An independent federal agency that makes recommendations to the president and Congress on issues affecting the 54 million Americans with disabilities. NCD promotes policies, programs, practices, and procedures that guarantee equal opportunity for individuals with disabilities, regardless of the nature or severity of the disability, and works to empower individuals with disabilities to achieve economic self-sufficiency, independent living, and inclusion and integration into all aspects of society.

National Cristina Foundation - <<http://www.cristina.org/>>

The National Cristina Foundation provides computer technology and solutions to people with disabilities, students at risk, and the economically disadvantaged, helping them lead more independent and productive lives.

National Organization on Disability - <<http://www.nod.org/>>

NOD promotes full and equal participation of America's 54 million men, women, and children with disabilities in all aspects of life. The organization's Web site offers a useful listing of resources and links to similar sites and organizations

President's Committee on Employment of People With Disabilities - <<http://www50.pcepd.gov/pcepd/>>

Provides information, training, and technical assistance to America's business leaders, organized labor, rehabilitation and service providers, advocacy organizations, families, and individuals with disabilities. The PCEPD site offers fact sheets, brochures, and other published materials, as well as an extensive list of for-profit companies interested in employing people with disabilities.

Special Olympics - <<http://www.specialolympics.org/>>

Special Olympics provides year-round sports training and athletic competition in a variety of Olympic-type sports for individuals with mental retardation, giving them continuing opportunities to develop physical fitness, demonstrate courage, experience joy, and participate in the sharing of gifts, skills, and friendship with their families, other Special Olympics athletes, and the community.

(6) Funding Opportunities - <<http://fdncenter.org/pnd/health/funding.html>>
Allen Foundation - <<http://www.tamu.edu/baum/allen.html>>

The Allen Foundation accepts proposals for programs that involve training children and young adults to improve their health and development or that focus on educating pregnant women and new mothers to form good nutritional habits at an early age. The foundation welcomes proposals that encourage the inclusion of mandatory courses in nutrition in medical schools. For a complete description of the program, visit the RFP Bulletin in Philanthropy News Digest: <<http://fdncenter.org/pnd/rfp/health#allen>>

Department of Health and Human Resources - <<http://www.hhs.gov/agencies/funding.html>>

The Department of Health and Human Services, the federal government's principal health-services agency and its largest grantmaking body, awards 60,000 grants a year through 300 programs, including programs in medical and social science research, infectious disease prevention, immunization services, food and drug safety, maternal and infant health, child abuse and domestic violence prevention, substance-abuse treatment and prevention, services for older Americans, and comprehensive health-services delivery for American Indians and Alaska Natives.

Office of Minority Health - <<http://www.omhrc.gov/OMH/fundingdb.htm>>

The Office of Minority Health Resource Center maintains a database of funding resources for minority health projects and other health-related programs that includes information from private and public foundations; pharmaceutical and insurance companies; journals and directories; and federal, state, and community agencies and organizations.

Sierra Health Foundation - <<http://www.sierrahealth.org/grants.html>>

Sierra Health Foundation's Mini-Grants Program is accepting applications for grants of \$10,000 and under to support projects designed to improve the health of underserved populations, expand the use and availability of healthcare resources, and improve the delivery of health-care services. Organizations and public agencies that serve selected northern California counties are eligible to apply. For a complete description, visit the RFP Bulletin in Philanthropy News Digest: <<http://fdncenter.org/pnd/rfp/health#sierra>>

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation - <<http://www.rwjf.org/>>

The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, the nation's largest health funder, concentrates its grantmaking in three areas: assuring that all Americans have access to basic health care at a reasonable cost; improving care and support for people with chronic health conditions; and promoting health and reducing the personal, social, and economic harm caused by tobacco, alcohol, and illicit drug abuse. For a list of the foundation's open calls for proposals visit: <http://www.rwjf.org/app/rw_applying_for_a_grant/rw_app_opencfp.jspv>


(7) Government Resources - <<http://fdncenter.org/pnd/health/government.html>>
Healthfinder - <<http://www.healthfinder.gov/>>

Healthfinder is a free Web portal to reliable consumer health and human services information developed by the Department of Health and Human Services. The site offers links to selected online publications, databases, and support and self-help groups, as well as government agencies and nonprofit organizations that produce reliable health-related information for the public.

Health.gov - <<http://www.health.gov/>>

Coordinated by the Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, the Office of Public Health and Science, the Office of the Secretary, and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, www.health.gov is a portal to the health initiatives and activities of a number of federal agencies and departments.

MEDLINEplus - <<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/>>

MEDLINEplus, a service of the National Library of Medicine at the National Institutes of Health — the world's largest medical library — offers free, up-to-date information, news, and/or research on virtually any medical topic you can think of.

An invaluable resource.

National Health Information Center - <<http://www.health.gov/nhic/>>

The National Health Information Center is a health information referral service that strives to put health professionals and consumers with health questions in touch with those organizations that are best able to provide answers. NHIC's Health Information Resource Database includes 1,100 organizations and government offices that provide health information upon request. Entries include contact information, a short description, and information about publications and services the organization provides.

National Institutes of Health - <<http://www.nih.gov/>>

Established in 1887, NIH is one of the world's foremost medical research centers and, with a budget of more than \$20 billion in 2001, the federal focal point for medical and biomedical research in the United States. NIH works toward its mission of uncovering new knowledge that leads to better health for everyone by conducting research in its own laboratories; supporting the research of non-federal scientists in universities, medical schools, hospitals, and research institutions; helping in the training of research investigators; and fostering the communication of medical information. Approximately 82 percent of the agency's funding takes the form of grants and contracts supporting research and training in more than 2,000 research institutions across the U.S. and abroad.

Science Panel on Interactive Communication and Health - <<http://www.health.gov/scipich/>>

Convened by the Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion of the Department of Health and Human Services, SciPICH is comprised of 14 national experts from a variety of disciplines related to interactive technologies and health, including medicine, human-computer interaction, public health, communication sciences, educational technology, and health promotion. Federal and external liaison groups representing more than two dozen federal agencies and offices and 25 non-federal or private-sector organizations provide assistance to SciPICH in developing, reviewing, and disseminating its work.

Department of Health and Human Services - <<http://www.hhs.gov/>>

The Department of Health and Human Services is the federal government's principal health-services agency and its largest grantmaking body, awarding some 60,000 grants a year. The department's activities cover a wide spectrum, including medical and social science research; infectious disease prevention; immunization services; food and drug safety; Medicaid; financial assistance for low-income families; child support enforcement; improving maternal and infant health; child abuse and domestic violence prevention; substance-abuse treatment and prevention; and comprehensive health-services delivery for American Indians and Alaska Natives. Detailed descriptions of these agencies are provided elsewhere in this guide.

HHS Agencies:

Office of the Secretary of Health and Human Services - <<http://www.hhs.gov/agencies/os.html>>

Administration for Children and Families - <<http://www.acf.dhhs.gov/>>

Administration on Aging - <<http://www.aoa.gov/>>

Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality - <<http://www.ahrq.gov/>>

Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry - <<http://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/>>

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention - <<http://www.cdc.gov/>>

Food and Drug Administration - <<http://www.fda.gov/>>

Health Care Financing Administration - <<http://www.hcfa.gov/>>

Health Resources and Services Administration - <<http://www.hrsa.gov/>>

Indian Health Service - <<http://www.ihs.gov/>>

National Institutes of Health - <<http://www.nih.gov/>>

Program Support Center - <<http://www.psc.gov/>>

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration - <<http://www.samhsa.gov/>>



(8) Grantmaking Foundations - <<http://fdncenter.org/pnd/health/foundations.html>>**Burroughs Wellcome Fund - <<http://www.bwfund.org/>>**

The North Carolina-based Burroughs Wellcome Fund, an independent private foundation that works to advance the medical sciences by supporting research and other scientific and educational activities, makes approximately 85 percent of its grants through competitive award programs, which support investigators in targeted areas of basic scientific research that have relevance to human health. Award program information and grant guidelines available online.

California Endowment - <<http://www.calendow.org/>>

The California Endowment works with organizations and institutions that directly benefit the health and well-being of Californians, in particular those working to provide and expand access to affordable, quality health care for California's underserved individuals and communities. The endowment takes a regional, community-based approach in its grantmaking and encourages community-based organizations and agencies to apply year-round. Complete application guidelines available online.

California Healthcare Foundation - <<http://www.chcf.org/>>

Established in 1996 as a result of the conversion of Blue Cross of California from a non-profit health plan to WellPoint Health Networks, a for-profit corporation, the California Healthcare Foundation today works to expand access to affordable, quality health care for underserved individuals and California communities and to promote fundamental improvements in the health status of the state's residents. Program details and application guidelines available online.

Charles A. Dana Foundation - <<http://www.dana.org/>>

Founded in 1950, the New York City-based Dana Foundation concentrates its funding in the areas of health and education. In the field of health, the foundation supports research in the areas of brain imaging, neuroimmunology, memory loss and aging, the genetic basis of manic-depressive illness, language-based learning disabilities, and brain-body science.

Commonwealth Fund - <<http://www.cmf.org/>>

The New York City-based Commonwealth Fund supports independent research on health and social issues and makes grants to improve health-care practice and policy. Nationally, the fund works to improve health-insurance coverage and access to care and to improve the quality of health-care services. The fund also makes grants to improve health care in New York City and offers a variety of health policy-related fellowships.

Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation - <<http://www.gatesfoundation.org/>>

The Seattle-based Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, the largest private foundation in the United States, places a major focus on helping to improve people's lives through health and learning and looks for "strategic opportunities to extend the benefits of modern science and technology to people around the world, especially where poverty serves as an obstacle to participating in these benefits." The foundation currently supports programs in the areas of global health, including common diseases, public health, and nutrition in developing countries; education and life-long learning, including the use of modern information technology; and family planning and reproductive health efforts in the developing world.

Howard Hughes Medical Institute - <<http://www.hhmi.org/>>

Through its grant programs, the Howard Hughes Medical Institute, a nonprofit medical research organization with an endowment of approximately \$13 billion, enhances science education for students at all levels and supports research resources in medical schools and other institutions within the U.S., as well as the research of outstanding biomedical scientists in selected countries elsewhere. In addition, HHMI, in collaboration with the American Association for the Advancement of Science, runs Grantsnet <<http://www.grantsnet.org/>>, a comprehensive Web site devoted to biomedical research grant opportunities.

Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation - <<http://www.kff.org/>>

The Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation is a major source of timely, reliable, and non-partisan information to policymakers, the media, and the general public. The foundation focuses its work in the areas of health policy, reproductive health, HIV policy, and health and development in South Africa, and its Web site is a comprehensive information resource in those areas. The foundation also has created Kaisernetwork.org <<http://www.kaisernetwork.org/>>, a free Webcasting service

designed to deliver national health news and reports.

W.M. Keck Foundation - <<http://www.wmkeck.org/>>

The Los Angeles-based W.M. Keck Foundation, one of the ten largest health funders in the U.S., makes grants to eligible institutions in the fields of science, engineering, medical research, and the liberal arts. The foundation does not consider applications from individuals and responds only to central priorities as identified and submitted by an eligible institution's chief executive officer. Potential applicants are encouraged to review the foundation's Grant Policy Statement and Grant Application Procedures carefully, as well as the list of recent grants on the foundation's Web site.

David and Lucile Packard Foundation - <<http://www.packard.org/>>

The Packard Foundation's Children, Families, and Communities program focuses on access to quality health care, the development of children and youth, the economic security of families, and the reduction of violence in homes and communities. The foundation's Population program makes grants, nationally as well as internationally, to organizations working to expand family planning options and reproductive health services to women and men; to programs that provide information and services to prevent childbearing and to promote safe sex to young people; to projects that mobilize interest, commitment, and resources to address population growth in developing countries; to programs that preserve and enhance reproductive rights, both in the United States and internationally; and to the development of the next generation of population and reproductive health experts.

Donald W. Reynolds Foundation - <<http://www.dwreynolds.org/>>

The Nevada-based Donald W. Reynolds Foundation makes health-related grants in the areas of cardiovascular research, where it has ambitions to support the largest cardiovascular clinical research network in the nation, and aging and quality of life, where it is interested in strengthening physicians' training in geriatrics. A Call for Proposals for the latter is available at the foundation's Web site: <<http://www.dwreynolds.org/main/guidelines/Call%20for%20Prop.html>>

Rockefeller Foundation - <<http://www.rockfound.org/>>

Endowed by John D. Rockefeller and chartered in 1913 for "the well-being of people throughout the world," the New York City-based Rockefeller Foundation focuses its activities in the areas of creativity & culture, food security, health equity, working communities, global inclusions, and a number of special programs. The foundation's Health Equity Program seeks to counter health-product market failures with advocacy, capacity building, and support for specific product initiatives. The foundation also has acknowledged the need to address looming health threats and aims to revitalize public health systems to address the health priorities of poor and marginalized people, particularly in sub-Saharan Africa and South and Southeast Asia.

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation - <<http://www.rwjf.org/>>

Established in 1972, the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation is the largest U.S. foundation devoted to improving the health and health care of all Americans. RWJF concentrates its grantmaking in three areas: assuring that all Americans have access to basic health care at reasonable cost; improving care and support for people with chronic health conditions; and promoting health and preventing disease by reducing the harm caused by the abuse of tobacco, alcohol, and illicit drugs. To accomplish these goals, the foundation supports training, education, research (excluding biomedical research), and projects that demonstrate the effective delivery of health-care services.

Starr Foundation - <<http://fdncenter.org/grantmaker/starr/>>

The New York City-based Starr Foundation supports various health-related areas, including hospitals, research, and improving care for underserved communities. The foundation's grants in these areas are far-ranging, and include capital grants to hospitals, significant research grants, and grants to assist in the provision of health care to under-served communities. The foundation does not provide funding for individual research projects and prefers to focus its funding of research projects at New York City hospitals and research centers.

Whitaker Foundation - <<http://www.whitaker.org/>>

The mission of the Arlington, Virginia-based Whitaker Foundation is to promote better human health through advances in medicine and rehabilitation. The foundation accomplishes its goals through a series of competitive grant, fellowship, and

award programs that support research and education in biomedical engineering at academic institutions in the U.S. and Canada. For details, see: <<http://www.whitaker.org/grants/>>.

(9) Health Grantmaker/Grantseeker Resources - <<http://fdncenter.org/pnd/health/html>>

American Hospital Association - <<http://www.aha.org/>>

Founded in 1898, AHA represents and serves all types of hospitals, health-care networks, and their patients and communities. Through its representation and advocacy activities, AHA ensures that members' perspectives and needs are heard and addressed in national health policy development, legislative and regulatory debates, and judicial matters. The association's advocacy efforts extend to the legislative and executive branches and include the legislative and regulatory arenas.

Association for Healthcare Philanthropy - <<http://www.go-ahp.org/>>

Headquartered in Falls Church, Virginia, AHP is dedicated to advancing and promoting the health care development profession. Resources available at the association's site include government regulation updates, a resource center, and an online version of its 2000 Guide to Giving Opportunities at Health Care Institutions.

Community Tool Box - <<http://ctb.lsi.ukans.edu/>>

Launched in 1995 by the Work Group on Health Promotion and Community Development at the University of Kansas and AHEC/Community Partners, a program of the University of Massachusetts Medical Center, the Community Tool Box educates the healthcare community about awareness-raising campaigns related to public-health issues. Topics discussed include how to recruit campaign partners, develop a plan, advocate for changes in health policy, work with members of the press, and evaluate the results. The site also provides links to Web sites of interest to public-health professionals.

Grantmakers in Health - <<http://www.gih.org/>>

Founded in 1982, Grantmakers in Health serves as a professional home for foundations and corporate giving programs and as a resource for grantmakers and others seeking expertise and information in the field of health philanthropy. The organization's comprehensive Web site features links to funding partners and related resources, information on GIH programs, research publications, a biweekly newsletter, and a calendar of upcoming events.

Grantmakers Concerned with Care at the End of Life - <<http://www.gccel.org/>>

A national network of funders working to address the many issues surrounding the experience of dying. The organization provides a forum for public and private grantmakers and also helps to educate funders about what they can do to aid in the research and development of new systems of care, governmental and institutional policies, and public and professional education programs.

Health and Behavior Research Funding Directory - <<http://www.cfah.org/FundingDirectory/introfundingdirectory.htm>>

Compiled by the Center for the Advancement of Health <<http://www.cfah.org/>>, this online listing features public and private funding sources for research in the health-related behavioral and social sciences.

Research!America - <<http://www.researchamerica.org/>>

Research!America, a nonprofit, non-partisan advocacy organization that works to make medical and health research a higher national priority, represents more than 400 academic institutions, independent research laboratories, teaching hospitals, private industries, professional societies, voluntary health agencies, and philanthropies.

(10) Health News Resources - <<http://fdncenter.org/pnd/health/news.html>>

American Health Line - <http://www.rwjf.org/app/rw_news_and_events/rw_ahl_news.html>

The National Journal group's daily news feed on health care policy and politics, brought to you by the folks at the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.

Kaisernetwork.org - <<http://www.kaisernetwork.org/>>

Kaisernetwork.org, a project of the Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation, is a free news and Webcasting service intended to keep users informed about critical health policy issues. Features include Daily Reports from major newspapers, Healthcast (live and archived Webcasts of major health policy events and speeches), AdWatch, and a daily Health Poll.

Medscape.com - <<http://www.medscape.com/>>

Medscape.com, a healthcare Web site created by publicly held Medscape, offers health professionals a broad range of medical health information, from the latest medical news to medical conference recaps. Registered physicians can also download applications, access their personal chart room, earn continuing medical education (CME) credits, and participate in online community activities.

World Health News - <<http://www.worldhealthnews.harvard.edu/>>

World Health News, an online news digest from the Center for Health Communication at the Harvard School of Public Health, covers critical public health issues from around the world and is designed to be a resource for an international audience of policymakers and journalists as well as public health researchers, practitioners, and advocates.

(11) Healthcare Policy Resources - <<http://fdncenter.org/pnd/health/policy.html>>

Academy for Health Services Research and Health Policy - <<http://www.ac.org/>>

The product of a merger between the Alpha Center and the Association for Health Services Research, the D.C.-based Academy for Health Services Research and Health Policy seeks to stimulate the development, understanding, and use of the best available health-services research and health policy information by public and private decision makers.

Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality - <<http://www.ahrq.gov/data/>>

AHRQ, a public health service agency within the Department of Health and Human Services, was created in 1989 to support research designed to improve the outcomes and quality of health care, reduce its costs, address patient safety and medical errors, and broaden access to effective services.

Alliance for Health Reform - <<http://www.allhealth.org/>>

The D.C.-based Alliance for Health Reform, a nonpartisan, nonprofit group that pursues the tandem goals of extending health coverage to all Americans and containing healthcare costs, organizes forums for and provides information to journalists, elected officials and their staffs, and other shapers of public opinion.

Economic and Social Research Institute - <<http://www.esresearch.org/>>

ESRI, a nonpartisan, nonprofit organization that specializes in health and social policy research, coordinates and participates in the development of public-policy reform proposals to extend health insurance coverage to the nation's uninsured.

Maternal and Child Health Policy Research Center - <<http://www.mchpolicy.org/>>

Through the analysis of existing national databases and its own surveys, the Maternal & Child Health Policy Research Center addresses the financing, delivery, and quality of health services to children.

National Health Policy Forum - <<http://www.nhpf.org/>>

NHPE, a nonpartisan education and information exchange program, works to foster more informed government decision-making by promoting broader interaction among opinion leaders in the public and private sectors.

National Coalition on Health Care - <<http://www.nchc.org/>>

The National Coalition on Health Care, the nation's largest alliance working to improve America's health care, comprises

more than 90 groups employing or representing approximately 100 million Americans, all of whom are united in the belief that affordable health care for all Americans is needed and achievable.

Urban Institute - <<http://www.urban.org/>>

The Urban Institute, a nonprofit policy research organization established in 1968, works to sharpen the debate about society's problems and efforts to solve them, improve government decision making, and increase citizens' awareness of important public choices.



(12) International Health Resources - <<http://fdncenter.org/pnd/health/international.html>>

American International Health Alliance - <<http://www.aiha.com/english/index.cfm>>

A not-for-profit organization dedicated to the belief that U.S. health-care providers, academic institutions, and other governmental and non-governmental health-related institutions and their communities can make important practical contributions to their international colleagues' efforts to address common health-care issues and concerns. The organization has created a highly successful partnership model to address local, national, and regional health-care issues and has supported over 80 partnerships involving health-care providers and educators in 21 nations.

Center for International Health and Development - <<http://www.ccisd.org/>>

A Quebec-based not-for-profit corporation that specializes in designing and managing international health projects. Over the past decade, CCISD has earned a strong reputation for its success in the prevention of sexually transmitted diseases, the fight against AIDS, and in the fields of epidemiological surveillance, primary health care, women's health, and support for community participation.

Council on Health Research for Development - <<http://www.cohred.ch/>>

COHRED, a non-governmental organization closely linked to the United Nations Development Programme, facilitates technical and financial support for the development of effective national health research systems. The organization also stimulates and promotes partnerships at country, regional, and global level; collaborates in the production of tools that can be used to improve the effectiveness of research as a means of achieving equity in health development; and advocates for the interests, needs, and priorities of developing countries among international investors and other agencies.

European Observatory on Healthcare Systems - <<http://www.observatory.dk/>>

The European Observatory on Health Care Systems supports and promotes evidence-based health policymaking through comprehensive and rigorous analysis of the dynamics of health care systems in Europe.

Global Health Council - <<http://www.globalhealth.org/>>

The Global Health Council (formerly the National Council of International Health), a U.S.-based nonprofit membership organization comprised of professionals in the health-care field, was created to identify priority world health problems and report on them to the U.S. public, Congress, international and domestic government agencies, academic institutions, and the global health community.

International Health Economics Association - <<http://www.healthconomics.org/cgi-bin/WebObjects/ihea>>

IHEA was formed to increase communication among health economists, foster a higher standard of debate in the application of economics to health and health care systems, and assist young researchers at the start of their careers. The association presents the annual Kenneth J. Arrow Award for best paper in health economics; distributes the Journal of Health Economics and the Journal of Mental Health Policy and Economics; and publishes a monthly electronic newsletter; and organizes conferences.

Population Information Online (POPLINE) - <<http://www.jhuccp.org/popline/>>

Produced by the Population Information Program at the Johns Hopkins School of Public Health and funded by the U.S. Agency of International Development, the POPLINE database includes coverage of population, family planning, and related health issues worldwide, including family planning programs and population law and policy.

Tobacco Control Resource Centre - <<http://www.tobacco?control.org/>>

The Tobacco Control Resource Centre works in partnership with national medical associations across Europe to educate their members, help patients, and inform public policy with respect to tobacco. It also acts a resource for individual doctors interested or involved in tobacco control. Although the main focus of the TCRC is the European medical profession, much of its work is also relevant to health workers and tobacco control advocates throughout the world.

World Health Organization - <<http://www.who.int>>

Founded in 1948, the World Health Organization, a specialized agency of the United Nations, works to provide worldwide guidance in the broad field of health; to set global standards for health; to cooperate with governments in strengthening national health programs; and to develop and transfer appropriate health technology, information, and standards. For a directory of health NGOs with official relations with WHO, see: <<http://www.who.int/ina-ngo/>>



(13) Mental Health Resources - <<http://fdncenter.org/pnd/health/mental.html>>

American Foundation for Suicide Prevention - <<http://www.afsp.org/index-1.htm>>

Dedicated to advancing our knowledge of suicide and the ability to prevent it, AFSP's activities include supporting research projects that help further the understanding and treatment of depression and the prevention of suicide; providing information and education about depression and suicide; promoting professional education for the recognition and treatment of depressed and suicidal individuals; and publicizing the magnitude of the problems of depression and suicide.

Center for Mental Health Services - <<http://www.mentalhealth.org/>>

Created by Congress, the Center for Mental Health Services spearheads the federal government's efforts to treat mental illnesses by promoting mental health and by preventing the development or worsening of mental illness when possible. The site features information about funding opportunities, a range of publications, and links to relevant resources and mental health information.

National Alliance for the Mentally Ill - <<http://www.nami.org/>>

A nonprofit support and advocacy organization for families and friends of people with severe mental illness.

National Institute for Mental Health - <<http://www.nimh.nih.gov/>>

The National Institute for Mental Health, an agency within the National Institutes of Health, is responsible for generating the knowledge needed to understand, treat, and prevent mental illness. The NIMH Web site provides information about a variety of funding opportunities, news and research reports, and links to current information in the field.

Screening for Mental Health, Inc. - <<http://www.nmisp.org/>>

The nonprofit Screening for Mental Health, Inc. (formerly the National Mental Illness Screening Project) works to coordinate nationwide mental health screening programs and to ensure cooperation, professionalism, and accountability in mental illness screenings.

National Mental Health Association - <<http://www.nmha.org/>>

The country's oldest and largest nonprofit organization concerned with all aspects of mental health and mental illness. The NMHA site provides information on depression screening, relevant news, and links to mental health resources.



(14) Minority Health Resources - <<http://fdncenter.org/pnd/health/minority.html>>

Asian & Pacific Islander American Health Forum - <<http://www.apiahf.org/>>

A national advocacy organization dedicated to promoting policy, program, and research efforts for the improvement of health status of Asian and Pacific Islander Americans.

Indian Health Service - <<http://www.ihs.gov/index.asp>>

The Indian Health Service, the principal federal healthcare provider and health advocate for Native Americans, works to

assure that comprehensive, culturally acceptable personal and public health services are available and accessible to American Indian and Alaska Native people.

Latino Medicine - <<http://www.latinomed.com/>>

The Latino Medicine Web site is committed to furthering the goals of Chicano/Latino medical student organizations, to providing culturally competent physicians to serve the Latino community, and to supporting and disseminating information to all future Latino physicians interested in serving the Latino community.

Minority Health Professions Foundation - <<http://www.minorityhealth.org/>>

The Minority Health Professions Foundation, a nonprofit educational and scientific organization, promotes optimum health among poor and minority people by engaging the collaborative resources, scholarship, and technology of minority health professions schools.

Native Health History Database - <<http://hsc.unm.edu/nhhd/Default.htm>>

A partnership of the Indian Health Service, the National Library of Medicine, and the University of New Mexico Health Sciences Center, the Native Health History Database is a centralized information resource containing complete bibliographic information and abstracts on historical American Indian and Alaska Native medical/health research reports covering the period from 1652 to 1970.

U.S. Office of Minority Health - <<http://www.omhrc.gov/>>

The mission of the Office of Minority Health, an agency within the Department of Health and Human Services, is to improve the health of racial and ethnic populations through the development of effective policies and programs that eliminate disparities in health.



(15) Online Indexes and Databases - <<http://fdncenter.org/pnd/health/database.html>>

Combined Health Information Database (CHID) Online - <<http://chid.nih.gov/>>

CHID, a bibliographic database produced by health-related agencies of the federal government, provides titles, abstracts, and availability information for health information and health education resources. New records are added quarterly and current listings are checked regularly to help ensure that entries are up-to-date and still available from their original sources.

DIRLINE: Directory of Health Organizations - <<http://dirline.nlm.nih.gov/>>

DIRLINE (Directory of Information Resources Online) is the National Library of Medicine's online database containing location and descriptive information about health and biomedicine information resources. The DIRLINE database contains approximately 10,000 records from a variety of sources, including federal, state, and local government agencies; information and referral centers; professional; self-help groups and voluntary associations; and academic and research institutions. Topics covered include HIV/AIDS, maternal and child health, most diseases and conditions, health-services research, and technology assessment.

MEDLINEplus - <<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/>>

MEDLINEplus, a service of the National Library of Medicine at the National Institutes of Health — the world's largest medical library — offers free, up-to-date information, news, and/or research on virtually any medical topic you can think of. An invaluable resource.

OncoLink - <<http://oncolink.upenn.edu/>>

Founded in 1994 by cancer specialists at the University of Pennsylvania Cancer Center, OncoLink provides comprehensive information about specific types of cancer, updates on cancer treatments, and news about research advances. Information on the site is updated daily and made available in various forms.



(16) Substance Abuse Resources - <<http://fdncenter.org/pnd/health/substance.html>>

Al-Anon/Alateen - <<http://www.al?anon.org/>>

Al-Anon works to help families and friends of alcoholics recover from the effects of living with the problem drinking of a relative or friend; Alateen is the organization's recovery program for young people.

Alcoholic Beverage Medical Research Foundation - <<http://www.abmrf.org/>>

The Baltimore-based Alcoholic Beverage Medical Research Foundation is devoted to supporting research on the effects of alcohol on health and behavior and the prevention of alcohol-related problems. Since its establishment as a 501(c)(3) organization by the malt beverage industries of the U.S. and Canada in 1982, the organization has supported the projects of more than 360 academic investigators at some 170 universities and research institutions.

Alcoholic's Anonymous - <<http://www.alcoholics?anonymous.org/>>

The primary purpose of Alcoholics Anonymous, an informal society of more than two million recovered alcoholics in the U.S., Canada, and other countries, is to help its members stay sober and help other alcoholics achieve sobriety. According to its Web site, AA "is not allied with any sect, denomination, politics, organization, or institution; does not wish to engage in any controversy; [and] neither endorses nor opposes any causes."

CASAWORKS for Families - <<http://www.casaworks.org/>>

Launched in January 1999, CASAWORKS for Families is the first national program of its kind to combine, under a single course of treatment and training, drug and alcohol treatment, literacy and job training, parenting and social skills, violence prevention, health care, and family services to help drug-and-alcohol-addicted mothers on welfare achieve self-sufficiency. A project of the National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse at Columbia University (CASA), the three-year, \$16 million initiative is specifically designed to help those with substance abuse and addiction problems — the most at-risk segment of the welfare population — become employed, safe, sober, and responsible parents.

Drug Abuse Resistance Education - <<http://www.dare.org/>>

Drug Abuse Resistance Education, or DARE, seeks to provide students with knowledge about the effects of drug abuse that goes beyond its physical ramifications and extends to its emotional, social, and economic aspects. The organization also aims to build decision-making and problem-solving skills and strategies to help students make informed decisions and resist drug use, peer pressure, and violence.

impacTEEN - <<http://www.uic.edu/orgs/impacteen/>>

Building on existing state- and community-level efforts, impacTeen, an interdisciplinary policy research partnership of nationally recognized substance abuse experts, is gathering data about youth alcohol, tobacco and illicit drug use and abuse from all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and a nationally representative sample of about 1,000 communities in order to evaluate the relative effectiveness of specific prevention programs and policies in reducing youth substance use and abuse.

Join Together Online - <<http://www.jointogether.org/>>

Join Together Online, a project of the Boston University School of Public Health, is a national resource for communities fighting substance abuse and gun violence. While the organization's primary focus is substance abuse, JTO believes that communities need to employ comprehensive strategies that respond to the harms related to substance abuse. These include domestic violence, unemployment, crime, loss of workplace productivity, and gun violence.

Lindesmith Center-Drug Policy Foundation - <<http://www.drugpolicy.org/>>

The Lindesmith Center-Drug Policy Foundation, a drug policy organization working to broaden and better inform the public debate on drug policy and related issues, represents over 25,000 supporters who favor alternatives to the current war on drugs and is the principal membership-based organization advocating for drug-policy reform. TLC-DPF's guiding principle is harm reduction, an alternative approach to drug policy and treatment that focuses on minimizing the adverse effects of both drug use and drug prohibition.

Mothers Against Drunk Driving - <<http://www.madd.org/>>

Mothers Against Drunk Driving was founded by a group of California women in 1980 to stop drunk driving, support the victims of this violent crime, and prevent underage drinking. A 501(c)(3) grassroots organization with more than 600 chapters

nationwide, MADD focuses on looking for effective solutions to the drunk driving and underage drinking problems while supporting those who have already experienced the pain of these senseless crimes.

National Families in Action - <<http://www.emory.edu/NFIA/>>

The Atlanta-based National Families in Action, an institute under the purview of the National Institutes of Health, works to help families and communities prevent drug abuse among children by promoting policies based on science. NIAAA supports and conducts biomedical and behavioral research on the causes, consequences, treatment, and prevention of alcoholism and alcohol-related problems, and also provides leadership in the national effort to reduce the severe and often fatal consequences of these problems.

Partnership for a Drug Free America - <<http://www.drugfreeamerica.org/sitemap.asp>>

The Partnership for a Drug-Free America, a nonprofit coalition of professionals from the communications industry, is dedicated to reduce the demand for illegal drugs in America. Through its national anti-drug ad campaign and other forms of media communication, the Partnership works to decrease demand for drugs by changing societal attitudes that support, tolerate, and condone drug use.

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration - <<http://www.samhsa.gov/>>

SAMHSA was established by Congress in 1992 to strengthen the nation's healthcare capacity to provide prevention, diagnosis, and treatment services for substance abuse and mental illnesses. Working in partnership with states, communities, and private organizations, SAMHSA serves as the umbrella under which substance abuse and mental health service centers are housed. These include the Center for Mental Health Services (CMHS), the Center for Substance Abuse Prevention (CSAP), and the Center for Substance Abuse Treatment (CSAT).



(17) Veteran Health Resources - <<http://fdncenter.org/pnd/health/veteran.html>>

Disabled American Veterans - <<http://www.dav.org/>>

Formed in 1920 and chartered by Congress in 1932, Disabled American Veterans is the voice of America's service-connected disabled as well as a nationwide network of services made available free of charge to all veterans and members of their families.

Fisher House Foundation - <<http://www.fisherhouse.org/>>

The Fisher House Foundation, a national not-for-profit organization, provides temporary homes for military and veterans' families while a loved one is receiving care at major military and VA medical centers.

Foundation for American Veterans - <<http://www.fav.org/>>

The Foundation for American Veterans was established to provide various benefits for all veterans regardless of which branch of the military they served with. The foundation's main goal is to step in and assist veterans — either through veterans hospitals, homeless programs, or educational and crisis programs — where the local, state, and federal governments leave off.

National Veterans Foundation - <<http://www.nvf.org/>>

A nonpartisan public service foundation devoted entirely to the humanitarian needs of our nation's veterans and their families.

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs - <<http://www.va.gov/>>

The Department of Veterans Affairs' Web site provides information on VA programs, benefits, and facilities worldwide. The site serves several major constituencies, including veterans and their dependents, Veterans Service Organizations, the military, the general public, and VA employees around the world. All of the information is easily accessible from user-friendly table of contents and searchable by keyword.

Veterans Health Administration - <http://www.va.gov/About_VA/Orgs/vha/>

In addition to its medical care mission, the Veterans Health Administration is the nation's largest provider of graduate

medical education and one of the nation's largest medical research organizations.



(18) Women, Children and Family Health Resources - <<http://fdncenter.org/pnd/health/women.html>>

Children's Defense Fund - <<http://www.childrensdefense.org/>>

The mission of the D.C.-based Children's Defense Fund is to ensure every child a "healthy start, a head start, a fair start, a safe start, and a moral start" in life and successful passage to adulthood with the help of caring families and communities. Founded in 1973, CDF strives to educate the nation about the efficacy of preventive investment in children and pays particular attention to the needs of poor and minority children as well as those with disabilities.

Families USA - <<http://www.familiesusa.org/>>

Families USA acts as a watchdog over government actions affecting health care; conducts public information campaigns about health care issues of concern to families; and provides training and technical assistance to nonprofit organizations as they address critical health care problems in their communities and states.

KidsHealth - <<http://kidshealth.org/>>

Created by the Nemours Center for Children's Health Media, the KidsHealth Web site offers up-to-date health and medical information for the parents of children and teens as well as numerous interactive educational features.

Maternal and Child Health Policy Center - <<http://www.mchpolicy.org/>>

Projects conducted by the MCH Policy Research Center, a D.C.-based health policy group, address the financing, delivery, and quality of health services to children. Through the analysis of existing national databases and surveys, MCH provides analytic reports on a variety of issues of national, state, and local significance.

National Network for Immunization Information - <<http://www.immunizationinfo.org/>>

The mission of NNii is to provide the public, health professionals, policy makers, and the media with up-to-date, scientifically valid information related to immunization so that they can make informed decisions

National Partnership for Women and Families - <<http://www.nationalpartnership.org/>>

A not-for-profit, non-partisan organization that uses public education and advocacy to promote fairness in the workplace and quality health care.

National Women's Health Information Center - <<http://www.4women.gov/>>

A service of the Office on Women's Health, an agency within the Department of Health and Human Services, NWHIC provides a gateway to the vast array of federal and other health information resources for women.


Planned Parenthood Federation of America - <<http://www.plannedparenthood.org/>>

Planned Parenthood works to provide comprehensive reproductive and complementary health-care services in settings that preserve and protect the essential privacy and rights of each individual. On the site, visitors will find a searchable listing of local health centers, news, information on sexual health, and links to relevant research.

Samuel Harris Fund for Children's Dental Health - <<http://www.aapd.org/harris.html>>

The Samuel Harris Fund for Children's Dental Health works to improve children's oral health, particularly those children at risk of not receiving proper oral health education and preventive care because of their economic status. Competitive grants are awarded to applicants whose programs are designed to coordinate with the ADA's Children's National Dental Health Month Campaign in February.

Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation - <<http://www.komen.org/>>

The Komen Breast Cancer Foundation, sponsor of the Race for the Cure® 5K run/walk series, works to eradicate breast cancer as a life-threatening disease by advancing research, education, screening, and treatment. The Komen Web site offers information on a variety of grant and funding opportunities, news, information related to breast health, and more. 

R E S E A R C H

Opportunities & Deadlines

AGING

Title: Biology of Adult Stem Cells in Aging

Agency: NIH - NIA / National Institute on Aging

Identification: RFA: AG-01-006

Deadline: September 11, 2001, with letter of intent requested by August 14, 2001

The NIA is encouraging the submission of R01 applications to support research on the interrelations between stem cells and aging. The purpose of the initiative is both to improve the understanding of aging and to help in the development of stem cell-based therapies. It is anticipated that five to seven grants with annual budgets of up to \$250,000 in direct costs will be funded. The RFA, published in the NIH Guide of June 8, 2001, discusses the state of knowledge of this field, the purposes and scope of the program, and presents these nine examples of possible targets for investigation:

”o Investigation of the numbers and types of stem cells resident in tissues of the adult and how those populations of stem cells change during aging.

”o Characterization of the natural potential for growth, self-renewal, migration and differentiation in vivo and in vitro for adult stem cells and their progeny from aging animals/humans.

”o Manipulation and control of the potential for growth, self-renewal, migration and differentiation in vivo and in vitro for adult stem cells and their progeny from aging animals/humans.

”o Investigation of changes in aging tissue environments and the effects of those changes on stem cell function and on differentiation of stem cell progeny.

”o Methods to identify, separate, isolate and monitor stem cells in aging tissues.

”o Investigation of disease models and function of adult stem cells in disease states common to aged individuals.

”o Characterization of the ability of transplanted or resident adult stem cells or their progeny to integrate with host tissue of different ages to produce functional changes or restore impaired tissue function.

”o Characterization of genetic determinants influencing adult stem cell function in aging and age-related disorders.

”o Investigation of the interrelationship between stem cells and fundamental processes that determine the rate at which organisms age.”

Contact Jill L. Carrington, Ph.D., Chief, Systems Branch, Biology of Aging Program, at 301/496-6402; FAX: 301/402-0010; or Bradley C. Wise, Ph.D., Program Director, Fundamental Neuroscience, Neuroscience and Neuropsychology of Aging Program, at 301/496-9350; FAX: 301/496-1494.

Title: Caloric Restriction and Aging in Non-Human Primates

Agency: NIH - NIA / National Institute on Aging

Identification: RFA: AG-02-002

Deadline: December 11, 2001, with letter of intent requested by November 11, 2001

The NIA maintains colonies of Rhesus macaques and of squirrel monkeys including groups which have been maintained on short- and long-term caloric restriction (CR) for research purposes related to known beneficial effects of this regimen on longevity and aging. They are being made available along with funds for research support to allow scientists outside the intramural NIA program to use the colonies for meritorious studies, most probably studies of a non-invasive nature. The research will be supported by cooperative agreements (U01) which will allow participation by NIA scientific staff in specified aspects of the research. About five to ten awards totaling \$1 million in support for the first year will probably be made. The RFA, published in the NIH Guide of June 22, 2001, emphasizes the breadth of research desired, describes the cohorts of non-human primates (NHP) currently available, indicates the nature of the collaborative aspects of the projects, and states the organizational requirements. The research objectives are identified in the following quotation from the RFA:

”The research objectives of this RFA are very broad. The purpose of making this resource available is to stimulate research in all areas of study relating to the mechanism of action of CR in NHP. One goal is to determine if the health-span and lifespan benefits of CR observed in rodents are also observed in NHP. The second goal is to promote more mechanistic studies of CR to identify target systems, processes or molecules by which CR exerts its beneficial effects on healthy aging. To this end, many diverse areas of research are relevant, including investigations into maintenance of immune function with aging, behavioral studies, cognitive and motor function, sensory modalities including taste and olfaction, endocrine and neuroendocrine status, reproductive function, renal function, cardiovascular health, and hepatic function. The role of oxidative stress is another area of interest, since there is considerable evidence that oxidative stress is a major factor in aging and that CR reduces the level of oxidative stress in rodents.”

For inquiries related to the program and applications contact Nancy L. Nadon, Ph.D., Head, Office of Biological Resources and Resource Development, at 301/496-6402; FAX: 301/402-0010. For inquiries regarding the primate colonies, including background information available, the CR protocols, and restrictions to research protocols contact Mark Lane, Ph.D., NIA, Gerontology Research Center, at 301/594-1210; FAX: 301/480-0504.


AIDS

Title: Oral Transmission of HIV

Agency: NIH - NIDCR / National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research

Identification: not known

Deadline: not known

Information from a recent NIDCR Advisory Council meeting indicates that a new RFA will be released in the fall of 2001 inviting proposals on the oral transmission of HIV, an area which has not received adequate attention from investigator-initiated grant proposals. It is reported that special interest is likely to be aimed at some of these topics: prevention of postnatal transfer of HIV, such as by breast milk; comparisons of mechanisms of oral transmission with other routes; basic studies of how the virus enters the oral tissues and what factors may modify the process; international studies using special populations; and inhibition of oral transmission by oral components and development of potential inhibitors of the process. Contact Dennis Mangan, Division of Extramural Research at 301/594-2421. 

Title: Therapeutics Research on AIDS-Associated Opportunistic Infections and Malignancies

Agency: NIH - NIAID / National Institute of Allergy & Infectious Diseases; NCI / National Cancer Institute; and NIDCR / National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research


Identification: PA-01-113

Deadline: Ongoing, with deadlines of September 1, January 2, and May 1

The three named institutes are seeking applications for R01 and R21 (exploratory/developmental) grant applications to support preclinical research aimed at the discovery and development of therapeutic agents for treatment of opportunistic infections (OIs) and malignancies in people with AIDS. Specific OIs targeted involve these pathogens: *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*, *Pneumocystis carinii*, *Cryptosporidium parvum*, and the microsporidia. The malignancies are Kaposi's sarcoma, lymphomas, cervical cancer, oral warts and cancers, and anogenital cancers. In general research directed toward both the identification of new molecular targets and of new agents is sought. The following short list of examples of research topics is given in the Program Announcement published in the NIH Guide of June 29, 2001:

- discovery and development of efficacious new therapeutic agents for treatment of AIDS-associated OIs and malignancies;
- validation of molecular targets for therapeutic agents utilizing state-of-the-art molecular genetic technology;
- discovery and evaluation of novel, selective chemical entities generated by combinatorial chemistry or combinatorial genomics methodologies;
- development of improved delivery systems for therapeutic agents (improved bioavailability, pharmacokinetics); and
- development of improved assays, in vitro (cell culture) and in

vivo (animal model) systems for drug evaluations."

For R21 applications, under this program, two years of support with annual budgets no higher than \$150,000 in direct costs may be requested. Contact, for issues related to OIs in general, Chris Lambros, Ph.D., Division of AIDS, NIAID, at 301/435-3769; FAX: 301/402-3171; for issues related to malignancies, Kenneth Cremer, Ph.D., Division of Cancer Biology, NCI, at 301/496-6085; FAX: 301/496-2025; and for issues related to OIs in the oral cavity, Dennis F. Mangan, Ph.D., Division of Extramural Research, NIDCR, at 301/594-2421; FAX: 301/480-8318. Applications under this program could also be considered for funding by the NHLBI or the NIDDK. Appropriate contacts in those institutes are also identified in the announcement. 


CHILD HEALTH

Title: Research and Training on Language Development in Children

Agency: Bamford-Lahey Children's Foundation

Identification: none

Deadline: none

The Bamford-Lahey Children's Foundation is a rather new philanthropic organization which supports a range of activities related to learning and use of spoken language in children with developmental language disorders when such activities may relate broadly to the learning of language. The activities supported are stated to include working with the Foundation in "...running a conference, conducting research, setting up a database, creating intervention strategies, or developing applications of technology." A few one-year projects costing no more than \$20,000 each may be funded. The Foundation also awards scholarships for doctoral level training with a "...focus on children's language disorders.." The Foundation maintains a website at <<http://bamford-lahey.org>> which gives much insight into its objectives. Applications must be invited based on a one- or two-page letter of inquiry which may be submitted at any time. Contact the Foundation by e-mail at <info@bamford-lahey.org> 

Title: Biliary Atresia Clinical Research Consortium

Agency: NIH - NIDDK / National Institute of Diabetes & Digestive & Kidney Diseases


Identification: RFA: DK-02-008

Deadline: November 28, 2001, with letter of intent requested by October 16, 2001

The NIDDK has issued this RFA to assemble a consortium of about ten clinical centers (CCs) and one data coordinating center (DCC) to conduct a five-year clinical study of biliary atresia and neonatal hepatitis. The centers will be funded under cooperative agreements (U01), about \$125,000 in total costs per year for each CC and \$750,000 for the DCC. Under the cooperative agreement mechanism some scientific personnel of the NIDDK will participate in the research planning and conduct with representatives of the extramural centers. The overall objective

of the project is to establish a database of clinical information and also serum and tissue samples from children with biliary atresia or with idiopathic neonatal hepatitis, conditions deemed to be inadequately studied. The background for the initiative, the objectives of the study, and the organizational and functional features of the consortium are described in the RFA which was published in the NIH Guide of June 29, 2001. Included in the RFA is the following list of examples of specific areas of research of interest:

- "1) Identification of the etiology of biliary atresia focusing on environmental, genetic, virologic, and immunologic risk factors;
- "2) Development of rapid and sensitive means for diagnosis of biliary atresia and discrimination from other forms of neonatal cholestasis including idiopathic neonatal hepatitis;
- "3) Definition of the natural history of biliary atresia;
- "4) Definition of the optimal regimens and timing for medical and surgical interventions; and
- "5) Identification of risk factors for progression of disease and complications, including factors that affect the success of liver transplantation."

Contact Patricia Robuck, Ph.D., M.P.H., Director, Clinical Trials Program, Division of Digestive Diseases and Nutrition, at 301/594-8879; FAX: 301/480-8300. 

Title: Sleep and Sleep Disorders in Children

Agency: NIH - NHLBI / National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute; NIMH; NINR; and NICHD

Identification: RFA: HL-01-006

Deadline: October 16, 2001, with letter of intent requested by September 20, 2001

These four institutes of the NIH are seeking applications for R01 grants to support research designed to improve the understanding of mechanisms by which sleep deprivation and disorders affect the cardiopulmonary, hematological, immunological, mental, and behavioral health of children, particularly in the age range of 4 to 18 years. Clarification of age-specific and individual differences in sleep requirements, the etiology and progression of sleep disorders, and the role of genetic factors are among the goals of the program. Some ten grants are expected to be funded, with annual budgets of up to \$250,000 in direct costs and durations of four years. The RFA, published in the NIH Guide of June 8, 2001, discusses in detail the objectives of this initiative, presenting the following examples of topics which might be investigated:


- "o Elucidate the role of sleep timing and pattern in mechanisms regulating the growth and development of healthy children.
- "o Elucidate the neurobiological and genetic basis of individual variation in the sleep response to physical fatigue or sleep deprivation in healthy children.
- "o Elucidate the inter-relationship between sleep and host defense mechanisms in healthy children and in children with primary or secondary sleep disturbance.
- "o Elucidate pathophysiological mechanisms linking sleep disturbances in children to autonomic, hormonal, immunological, or other abnormalities contributing to the development of heart, lung, and blood diseases.

"o Elucidate the role of sleep in the acquisition of childhood motor and behavioral skills, the control of attention, adaptive coping skills, and the developmental integration of new experiences (e.g. procedural learning, emotional maturation, and cognitive development).

"o Elucidate pathophysiological mechanisms linking sleep disturbances (e.g. sleep architecture, habits, and deprivation) in children to mental, behavioral, emotional, and cognitive abnormalities as well as changes associated with puberty.

"o Elucidate neurobiological mechanisms underlying the onset of sleep disorders such as narcolepsy, insomnia, and restless legs syndrome in children.

"o Identify biological and genetic factors that affect the susceptibility of children to circadian rhythm sleep disorders, especially delayed sleep phase syndrome."

Four contacts are identified, one from each participating institute. The one from the NHLBI is Michael Twery, Ph.D., Division of Lung Diseases, at 301/435-0202; FAX: 301/480-3557. 



DENTAL MEDICINE

Title: New Approaches to the Pathogenesis and Treatment of Orofacial Pain

Agency: NIH - NIDCR / National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research; and ORWH / Office of Research on Women's Health

Identification: PA-01-108


Deadline: Ongoing, with deadlines of October 1, February 1, and June 1

The NIDCR and the ORWH encourage the submission of R01 applications for basic or clinical research, particularly collaborative efforts, directed toward improved understanding of facial pain, especially that associated with temporomandibular disorders (TMDs). The announcement of this program, published in the NIH Guide of June 8, 2001, discusses the prevalence of orofacial pain and the attention it has received from national and international bodies. It also discusses attempts to further the understanding of the disorders and to treat them. Included in the summary is the following list of examples of possible research topics:

- "o animal models of specific pathophysiological conditions that produce orofacial pain, in particular ones that induce temporomandibular dysfunction;
- "o genetic predisposition as a factor in differential responses to insults that produce orofacial pain and TMDs;
- "o defining unique molecular or physiological differences in the components of the orofacial region that may be relevant to orofacial pain syndromes;
- "o development and use of biological markers and surrogate end points to objectively classify types of orofacial pain, and for use in the development of new therapeutic strategies;
- "o peripheral and central sensitization of nociceptors, in particular as it relates to stimuli or lesions known to induce orofacial pain;
- "o state of the art analgesic approaches for alleviation of

orofacial pain;

”o the design and development of controlled release delivery systems for delivery of both conventional and new drugs at targeted specific sites of the TMJ to alleviate pain and inflammation.”

Contact Dr. Kenneth A. Gruber, Chief, Chronic Diseases Branch, Division of Extramural Research, NIDCR, at 301/594-4836; FAX: 301/480-8318; or Dr. Lisa Begg, Director of Research Programs, ORWH, at 301/402-1770; e-mail: <begg@od.nih.gov>. 

DIABETES, ENDOCRINOLOGY, & METABOLIC DISORDERS

Title: The Role of Antioxidants in the Prevention of Diabetic Complications

Agency: NIH - NIDDK / National Institute of Diabetes & Digestive & Kidney Diseases; NEI; NHLBI; NIA; NINDS; and the Office of Dietary Supplements

Identification: PA-01-112

Deadline: Ongoing, with deadlines of October 1, February 1, and June 1

This program, sponsored by the six components of the NIH named above, seeks R01 and R21 grant applications to support research on the efficacy of vitamin E and other antioxidants in preventing, delaying, or ameliorating the micro- or macrovascular effects of diabetes and on the mechanisms involved in any such actions. The R21 (exploratory/developmental) grants are aimed at supporting research by new investigators or on new avenues to be pursued by experienced scientists, including those attracted from other fields.

Preliminary data are not required as part of such applications which, however, are limited to annual budgets of \$125,000 in direct costs and to two years of support. Basic or clinical research may be proposed, but not “...epidemiologic or descriptive studies which assess diet or nutritional supplementation, or which simply measure blood levels of oxidants/antioxidants in patients with diabetes...”. The following examples of topics considered appropriate for study are included in the announcement, from the NIH Guide of June 29, 2001:

”o Preclinical studies to determine the mechanism(s) by which antioxidant(s) prevent or influence the development of diabetic vascular disease, including neurovascular and cerebrovascular disease;

”o Studies to define interactions between oxidative pathways and free radical formation and the signaling pathways by which insulin, glucose and other factors affect the endothelium;

”o Studies to investigate genetic factors that may affect susceptibility to oxidative damage and response to anti-oxidant therapies in people with diabetes;

”o Studies to define similarities in the mechanisms by which oxidative stress and anti-oxidant therapies affect microvascular and macrovascular disease in diabetes;

”o Phase II studies to assess metabolism and tissue distribution, determine kinetics, and establish optimal dosing regimens for


vitamin E or other antioxidants in patients with diabetes and/or diabetic complications;

”o Studies to establish valid surrogate markers or clinical endpoints of diabetic complications that could be used in Phase III trials of antioxidants;

”o Studies to determine clinically meaningful, state-of-the-art measures of oxidant/antioxidant status of patients with diabetes;

”o Small trials to compare antioxidants to establish which one(s) is most likely to be efficacious in diabetic complications, or to define specific subpopulations who are most likely to benefit from antioxidant intervention;

”o Studies to develop new strategies to inhibit oxidation/glycooxidation and examine the effect of these strategies on microvascular or cardiovascular disease.”

A contact is named for each participating NIH component; the first named is Barbara Linder, M.D., Ph.D., Division of Diabetes, Endocrinology and Metabolic Diseases, NIDDK, at 301/594-0021; FAX: 301/480-3503. 

Title: Diabetic Macular Edema Clinical Research Network

Agency: NIH - NEI / National Eye Institute

Identification: RFA: EY-01-001

Deadline: October 26, 2001

The NEI is initiating a major effort to establish a network of three core centers and ultimately about 25 clinical centers to plan, implement, and conduct clinical trials of the treatment of diabetic macular edema. The extramural components of the network will be funded by cooperative agreements (U10), under which there will be substantial involvement of the NEI staff in various aspects of the research program. This initial RFA seeks proposals for the three core centers, which need to be in place early in the process. One agreement will be awarded for each core. The cores are a Network Study Chair, a Coordinating Center (CC), and a Fundus Photograph Reading Center. The project period will be seven years. \$4.5 Million has been allocated for the first year of the program. Examples of possible research topics for clinical trials include: “Modification of current photocoagulation techniques; lowering of serum lipid levels; inhibition of PKC/Vascular Endothelial Growth Factor; inhibition of other growth factors; inhibition of inflammation; vitrectomy.” The following are the synopses of the functions of each core as given in the RFA:

”The Network Study Chair, in collaboration with NEI, will provide overall scientific leadership for the network. The Chair will take the lead in selection of ideas for clinical trials. The Chair will be responsible for the following activities: development of trial protocols; operational management of the network; arranging meetings and conference calls of the Executive Committee and the Protocol Review and Oversight Committee; and, with assistance from the Coordinating Center, informing network participants of progress in protocol development, trial-related issues, and administrative issues related to the network. The Network Chair will serve as chair of the Executive Committee (EC).

”The CC will have both scientific and administrative functions. The CC will arrange for meetings and conference calls of the

Data and Safety Monitoring Board (DSMB). The functions of DSMB will be supported by funds provided to the CC specifically for the DSMB, including member honoraria and expenses. CC staff will assist with preparation of trial protocols, including the statistical design of each study; update protocols, data collection forms, and materials to aid in patient recruitment; analyze study results; and review all manuscripts for statistical considerations. The Principal Investigator of the CC will be a member of the EC.

"The Fundus Photograph Reading Center staff will develop and implement a fundus photograph classification/grading system, assist in the development of ideas for network clinical trials, and assist in the development of protocols. The Principal Investigator of the Fundus Photograph Reading Center will be a member of the EC."

The types of expertise and experience required for the PIs of these cores are indicated in the RFA, published in the NIH Guide of June 8, 2001. Solicitations for the Clinical Centers will be published at a later date. Contact Donald F. Everett, M.A., Program Director, Collaborative Clinical Research, at 301/496-5983; FAX: 301/402-0528.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

Title: Health Effects of Chemical Contaminants in Drinking Water - FY 2001 Science to Achieve Results (STAR) Program

Agency: EPA / National Center for Environmental Research

Identification: 2001-STAR-U1

Deadline: September 17, 2001

This initiative of the EPA's National Center for Environmental Research seeks proposals for research in two very specific areas related to potential adverse health effects of chemical contamination of drinking water supplies. The priorities are selected from a list of known chemical contaminants with adverse health potential. This year two major problems are being addressed. The first is related to the potential for methemoglobin formation induced by some of the known contaminants, including nitrobenzene and dinitrotoluenes. In particular research on subpopulations which have increased sensitivity to these agents are sought (e.g., infants, children, pregnant women, the elderly, etc.). Also sought are studies of individuals with metabolic disorders, such as glucose-6-phosphate dehydrogenase deficiency, and studies of interactions with other agents which may be additive or synergistic in adverse effects related to methemoglobin formation. The program announcement, on the Internet at <http://es.epa.gov/ncerqa/rfa/02drinkccl.html>, suggests interests in dose-responses in the various subpopulations and in species comparisons that might help clarify mechanisms. A second area of interest under this initiative is the neurotoxicity of aluminum. The announcement mentions such topics as comparisons of chemical forms of aluminum and the effects of aluminum on biological phenomena such as ion transport, cytoskeleton effects, neurotransmitter levels, and enzyme levels. Grant periods of two or three years with annual budgets of up to \$175,000 are anticipated. Contact Maggie Breville at 202/564-6893; FAX:

202/565-2443.

HEART, LUNG, AND BLOOD DISEASES

Title: Trials Assessing Innovative Strategies to Improve Clinical Practice Through Guidelines in Heart, Lung, and Blood Diseases

Agency: NIH - NHLBI / National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute

Identification: RFA: HL-01-011


Deadline: October 12, 2001, with letter of intent requested by September 12, 2001

This RFA seeks applications from clinical investigators who wish to conduct trials to assess approaches for the implementation of evidence-based clinical practice guidelines for the treatment of heart, lung, and blood diseases and conditions, approaches which may influence their utilization. There are rather specific requirements available in the RFA, published in the NIH Guide of June 29, 2001. Some aspects are indicated in this quotation from the stated "Purpose":

"The application should propose an intervention that employs innovative strategies to address multiple barriers to guideline implementation or factors enhancing guideline adherence. Interventions should focus on delivery of medical care and should target the medical practice or hospital unit, the physician, or other providers through, for example, policies, programs, resources, procedures, and/or education. A range of payment systems (fee-for-service, managed care, and public health) may be included as appropriate. Applications should contain a detailed description of the proposed intervention, which should be feasible for delivery in a medical-care setting, along with evidence of its feasibility in that setting. Phase 1 will comprise needs assessment for the purpose of refining intervention design and implementation plan. In Phase 2, the intervention strategies will be evaluated in controlled trials of physicians, practices, or clinics. The primary outcome measure should evaluate the impact of the intervention on physician or provider implementation of the selected guideline, using appropriate delivery (process of care) measures."

It is anticipated that phase 1 will last up to two years, phase 2, two to four years, with a final six-month period for analysis and publication efforts. Clinical guidelines of the NHLBI, accessible on the Internet at <http://www.nhlbi.nih.gov/guidelines/index.htm>, are of particular interest, especially those directed toward these topics:

- beta blocker, aspirin, blood pressure control, and lipid reduction in post-myocardial infarction patients;
 - blood pressure control in older adults;
 - thrombolytic therapy after acute myocardial infarction;
 - hydroxyurea therapy in sickle cell disease;
 - the use of iron chelation therapy in thalassemia;
 - use of inhaled corticosteroids to treat patients with persistent asthma; and
 - directly observed therapy for tuberculosis."
- It is expected that some six to ten new R01 grants will be funded based on responses to this RFA. Four contacts are identified in

the RFA. The first named is Dr. Marcel E. Salive, Division of Epidemiology and Clinical Applications, at 301/435-0380; FAX: 301/480-1669. 


INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Title: Microbial Risk in Drinking Water - FY 2001 Science to Achieve Results (STAR) Program

Agency: EPA / National Center for Environmental Research

Identification: 2001-STAR-V1

Deadline: September 17, 2001

The National Center for Environmental Research of the EPA is seeking proposals to help clarify issues related to the microbial contamination of drinking water and the effects on human health. Grants of up to \$175,000 per year with grant periods of up to three years may be awarded. The announcement of this program, on the Internet at <<http://es.epa.gov/ncercqa/rfa/02micdrink.html>>, describes its rather specific goals. Briefly stated the goal is to encourage innovative research for estimating microbial risk; two approaches are identified, development and application of indices of vulnerability and epidemiological studies. Contact Maggie Breville at 202/564-6893; FAX: 202/565-2443. 


INSTRUMENTATION & FACILITIES

Title: High End Instrumentation Program

Agency: NIH - NCRR / National Center for Research Resources

Identification: RFA: RR-01-004

Deadline: September 14, 2001, with letter of intent requested by August 14, 2001

The NCRR has announced a program under which it will fund some five to ten purchases of single "high end" advanced instruments to be used by at least three NIH-funded investigators. It is expected that the equipment will be highly specialized, requiring a high level of expertise for its utilization. Awards are expected to be in the range of one to two million dollars each, for the total purchase cost of the instrument itself, with the institution receiving the award paying all associated costs, such as any necessary alterations of buildings. The recipient is also expected to assure support for the continued operation of the instrument. The RFA, published in the NIH Guide of June 15, 2001, designates the following instruments as falling in the category to be funded: "...structural and functional imaging systems, macromolecular NMR spectrometers, high-resolution mass spectrometers, electron microscopes, and supercomputers." Contact Marjorie A. Tingle, Ph.D., High End Instrumentation Program, at 301/435-0772; FAX: 301/480-3659. 

KIDNEY DISEASES

Title: Multicenter Clinical Trial of Focal Glomerulosclerosis in Children and Young Adults


Agency: NIH - NIDDK / National Institute of Diabetes & Digestive & Kidney Diseases

Identification: RFA: DK-02-013

Deadline: March 15, 2002, with letter of intent requested by February 15, 2002

This RFA is seeking applications for cooperative agreements (U01) from which a group of Regional Clinical Coordinating Centers and a Data Coordinating Center will be selected to conduct a randomized clinical trial of cyclosporin or novel immunomodulatory agents in children and young adults with focal segmental glomerulosclerosis (FSGS). Four clinical centers and a single data center are planned. The clinical centers will each be funded at \$200,000 in total costs for year one, \$400,000 for each subsequent year, with similar funding for the data coordinating center. The funding mechanism, cooperative agreements, allows direct participation in the research planning and execution by the scientific staff of the NIDDK and for a highly organized degree of cooperation among all participants. The RFA, published in the NIH Guide of June 29, 2001, presents many details of the present state of planning and organization and announces an "information forum" to share more details, which will be held on October 8, 2001. The stated "Goal" in the RFA seems to present a good synopsis of the clinical trial contemplated, as follows:

"The goal of this RFA is to conduct a collaborative, multi-center randomized controlled clinical trial of therapy to improve the clinical course of children and young adults with FSGS. The primary outcome of this clinical trial is a clinically significant reduction or remission of proteinuria. Each Regional Clinical Coordinating Center is expected to randomize at least 100 study participants over an 18-month period. This sample size will require Regional Clinical Coordinating Centers to develop cooperative arrangements with other institutions and practicing physicians for patient referral. A Central Repository will be established by the NIDDK as a result of a separate solicitation to store patient samples. This is a collaborative research program. Investigators are required to work closely together to develop the design of the trial, recruit participants, and collect uniform follow-up data. Because the trial will involve a large number of physicians over a wide geographic region the trial design must be simple and the intervention readily acceptable by both physicians and trial participants."

The Data Coordinating Center will assist in all aspects of the planning and development of the trial protocol, furnishing special expertise on statistical aspects. It will also have primary responsibility for collecting, editing, storing, and analyzing data, and for audits and quality control. Contact Gladys H. Hirschman, M.D., or John W. Kusek, Ph.D., Division of Kidney, Urologic, and Hematologic Diseases, at 301/594-7717 (Dr. Hirschman) or 301/594-7735 (Dr. Kusek); FAX for both: 301/480-3510. 

MISCELLANEOUS

Title: Funding Opportunities from the Naval Undersea Warfare Center Division

Agency: U.S. Navy

Identification: 2001ST BAA 01

Deadline: June 30, 2002

Various agencies of the federal government, including units of the various armed forces, periodically issue announcements of rather broad categories of research which they wish to support under contracts with universities, other nonprofit entities, or commercial organizations. They usually invite investigators with potential projects to contact the agency with proposals that may be of mutual interest within the context of the announcement, referred to as a "Broad Agency Announcement" or BAA. Characteristically the deadline is about a year after the announcement, with the expectation being that contacts, discussions, and contracting may proceed anytime within those broad limits. This announcement, published, at least in part, in the Commerce Business Daily of June 29, 2001, is entitled "Science and Technology Broad Agency Announcement" from the Naval Undersea Warfare Center Division, Newport, RI. The BAA lists 20 very broad categories of research and development of interest. Most seem of little likely import to faculty members in academic health centers. There are, however, some exceptions. Included in the list are the following categories: "...Materials; Cognitive Neuroscience (CNS) or Other Emerging/Leap-Ahead Technologies That Offer to Dramatically Advance Submarine Sonar and/or Other Advanced Underwater Systems; Bioeffects; and Audition and Communication." This list of topics is followed by this statement: "This BAA also includes the following information contained towards the end of this announcement: Grants and Other Transactions, Education Partnership Agreements..." The BAA continues as a much-expanded discussion of these various topics. The full announcement is available on the Internet at <<http://www.npt.nuwc.navy.mil/contract/>>. Two contacts are identified; they are Gerald Palmer, Contract Negotiator, at 401/832-1645; FAX: 401/832-4820 and a technical staff member, Michael Keshura/Code 104/Industrial Programs Office Manager, at 401/832-1151. ▽

Title: Research Topics of Interest to the Army

Agency: U.S. Army Research Office

Identification: BAA: DAAD19-00-R-0010

Deadline: September 30, 2003

The U.S. Army Research Laboratory (ARL) has released a new broad agency announcement (BAA) of topics for which research proposals are invited from sources such as universities. Included are topics of interest to some other offices and directorates of the Army. The notice of this initiative was published in the Commerce Business Daily of June 8, 2001. It listed the following broad scientific areas of interest: chemistry, electronics, environmental sciences, life sciences, materials science, mathematical and computer sciences, mechanical

sciences, and physics. Special programs of the Army Research Office (ARO) include the following: Short Term Innovative Research Program, Young Investigator Program, Research Instrumentation, and Augmentation Awards for Science and Engineering Research Training. Very specific topics of interest to ARO were stated to be "...Biomolecular and Cellular Materials and Processes' with an emphasis on biomimetic self-assembly processes, hierarchical structure formation, and nanometer scale fabrication...". Inquiries and proposals are accepted at any time prior to September 30, 2003. The full BAA is available on the Internet at the ARO website at <<http://www.aro.army.mil>> and the ARL one at <http://www.arl.mil/business_opps.htm>. Questions may be directed to 919/549-4375; contacts are identified in the BAA on the Internet websites. ▽

Title: Rehabilitation Continuing Education Programs (RCEP) - FY 2001

Agency: U.S. Department of Education

Identification: CFDA No.: 84.264B

Deadline: August 31, 2001

The Department of Education is seeking applications from institutions in certain regions for the establishment of new programs of continuing education in rehabilitation. One of the regions is Region IV, which includes South Carolina, where one program is anticipated with a budget of up to \$500,000 per year for five years. The award recipient is expected to "...provide for a broad, integrated sequence of training activities that focus on meeting recurrent and common training needs of employed rehabilitation personnel throughout a multi-State geographical area." In the evaluation of proposals the Department will give some special consideration to applicants who indicate that they intend to utilize qualified individuals with disabilities in the work of the program, an intention supported by past performance. The full announcement of this program and the application should be available on the Internet at <<http://www.ed.gov/pubs/edpubs.html>> or by telephoning the Publications Center at 877/433-7827. Contact Michael Winter at 202/205-8286 for further information. ▽

Title: Upcoming Initiatives from the NIAID

Agency: NIH - NIAID / National Institute of Allergy & Infectious Diseases

Identification: not known

Deadline: various

A recent (June 18, 2001) issue of Health Grants and Contracts Weekly, a publication of Aspen Publishers, Inc., identified some plans of the NIAID, based on programs given concept approval by the Institute's advisers. Four major categories were mentioned. The first was a continuation and expansion of the Women's Interagency HIV Study. The second involves a new program, without a specific funding set-aside, to encourage innovative new ideas for AIDS research. The third program, for

which RFAs will be issued, perhaps in January, will seek to further research on basic human immunology. Finally there are plans to commit funds for the support of several core immunology-virology laboratories to support studies on non-human primates, included those directed toward the development simian vaccines. These programs will be announced formally in the NIH Guide for Grants and Contracts. The publication cited above identified a contact at the NIAID Division of AIDS, Rona Siskind, at 301/435-3732; e-mail: <rs170u@nih.gov>. ▼

Title: Upcoming Programs of NICHD
Agency: NIH - NICHD / National Institute of Child Health & Human Development
Identification: not known
Deadline: not known

According to the Federal Grants and Contracts Weekly issue of June 18, 2001, the June meeting of the NICHD Advisory Council gave concept approval to the following planned initiatives which should lead to grant and/or cooperative agreement programs to be funded with FY 2002 funds: Behavioral and Social Science Training and Career Development in HIV/AIDS; New Approaches to Male Fertility Regulation; Female Health and Egg Quality; Community Partnerships to Reduce Infant Mortality; Research on HIV/STD Prevention Messages; Institutional Pathways toward Strengthening HIV Prevention in Minority Communities; The Role of Genetic Diversity and Gene Interactions in Premature Birth; Centers of Excellence in Obstetric-Fetal Pharmacology; Mechanisms of Adverse Drug Reactions in Children; Molecular Genetics and Developmental Psychology; Health Disparity in Pre-Term Birth; Genetics and Neurobiology of Disorders Associated with Chromosome 18. Information on these initiatives should at least begin to appear within a few weeks on the Internet at <<http://www.nichd.nih.gov>>. ▼

Title: NASA Specialized Center of Research and Training (NSCORT) for Advanced Life Support (ALS)
Agency: NASA / Goddard Space Flight Center
Identification: NRA-01-OBPR-04
Deadline: October 16, 2001

The Office of Biological and Physical Research (OBPR) of NASA plans to issue a request for proposals in support of the Advanced Life Support (ALS) Project within the Advanced Human Support Technology (AHST) Program. The goal of this Specialized Center of Research and Training is to support basic and applied ground-based research and experimentation, not space flight experimentation. The details of this program and the request for proposals should be on the Internet at <http://research.hq.nasa.gov/code_u/nra/current/NRA-01-OBPR-04/index.html> by July 16, 2001. Contact Charles Barnes, Ph.D., Enterprise Scientist and Acting Lead, Advanced Human Support Technology Program, Bioastronautics Research Division, at 202/358-2365; FAX: 202/358-4168. ▼

Title: Thimerosal Pharmacokinetics: Assessment of the Distribution, Metabolism and Excretion
Agency: DHHS / Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR)
Identification: PA: 01165
Deadline: August 15, 2001


The ATSDR is seeking applications for the support of one grant to support a 12-month research project "...to define and characterize the appropriate pharmacokinetics of both methyl mercury and thimerosal distribution, metabolism, and elimination that are needed to accurately characterize the comparative neurotoxicity of these substances and develop recommendations for future extrapolation of these results to possible human exposure scenarios." Selection of the animal model is part of the requirement for the applications. The award is expected to be funded for one year at a level of \$130,000. The full announcement of this initiative should be on the CDC home page at <<http://www.cdc.gov>> under "funding", then "grants and cooperative agreements". Contact Dr. Dennis Jones, Division of Toxicology, ATSDR, at 404/498-0160; e-mail: <dej2@cdc.gov>; or Dr. Moiz Mumtaz, Division of Toxicology, at 404/498-0727; e-mail: <mgm4@cdc.gov>. ▼

Title: Cachexia: Research into Biobehavioral Management and Quality of Life
Agency: NIH - NINR / National Institute of Nursing Research; NCI; NICHD; NIDDK; and NINDS
Identification: PA-01-109
Deadline: Ongoing, with deadlines of October 1, February 1, and June 1

These five institutes solicit applications for research to be funded by R01 grants and directed toward furthering the understanding of cachexia as a consequence of any of its many causes. The purpose of the program is stated to be "1) to stimulate basic and clinical research in cachexia; 2) to examine cachexia in relation to several related symptoms to improve quality of life; and 3) to examine cachexia symptoms in two or more chronic conditions." The announcement of this program, that is the PA, published in the NIH Guide of June 15, 2001, reviews the state of knowledge of cachexia and its predisposing conditions, discusses the scope of this program, including a list of the following examples of suitable research areas:

- o Determine which symptoms of cachexia are amenable to metabolic or biochemical interventions and which symptoms require behavioral interventions in order to improve quality of life;
- o Identify and test nutritional, pharmacological, and psychoneuroimmunological interventions to prevent or treat the anticipated onset on anorexia with cachexia;
- o Test biobehavioral interventions to promote quality of life in cachectic patients who have different underlying conditions/diseases;

- ”o Compare and contrast traditional treatments alone or in tandem with alternative/complementary therapies to arrest cachexia in two or more different underlying conditions/ diseases;
- ”o Identify biological, immunological, chemical, genetic or behavioral markers to be used as an index of successful outcome measures in cachexia or the treatment and management of cachexia;
- ”o Explore regimens (e.g., physical activity and nutrient supplementation) to improve dyspnea, impaired mobility, pain, anorexia and fatigue associated with cachexia;
- ”o Explore the role of the neuroendocrine system in the development of cachexia; and
- ”o Examine the contribution of cachexia to the progression of neurodegenerative disease.”

There is a contact designated for each of the five institutes; the one from the NINR is Dr. Hilary Sigmon, Office of Extramural Programs, at 301/594-5970; FAX: 301/480-8260. 

Title: Functional Atlas of Orphan Nuclear Receptors

Agency: NIH - NIDDK / National Institute of Diabetes & Digestive & Kidney Diseases; and NIA / National Institute on Aging

Identification: RFA: DK-01-026

Deadline: November 19, 2001, with letter of intent requested by October 17, 2001

The NIDDK and the NIA are seeking proposals for a comprehensive plan to collect, collate, and organize the existing research data and to conduct further studies of the large group of nuclear receptors with unknown or poorly characterized ligands, which are therefore considered orphan receptors. A single Research Program - Cooperative Agreement (U19), funded at a level of about \$2.5 million in total yearly costs for up to five years, is anticipated. The RFA, published in the NIH Guide of June 8, 2001, discusses the background for this initiative in considerable detail and presents the rather specific objectives and requirements of the project, including the role of the scientific staffs of the two institutes who will participate in the conduct of the research under this cooperative agreement. In order to achieve the overall goal, the creation of a Functional Atlas of Orphan Nuclear Receptors, the following areas of research and development are proposed:

- ”o Determination of tissue specificity: understanding and cataloging levels and extent of expression in different cells/ tissues.
- ”o Preference in cofactor usage: tissue specificity and context of coactivator and/or corepressor usage; role of putative ligand(s) in cofactor recruitment (binding/dissociation) and function.
- ”o Receptor domain structure and function: DNA and/or ligand binding, transactivation, cofactor association.
- ”o Receptor/DNA interaction: roles in and effects of chromatin remodeling cofactors on regulation of transcription; roles of receptor dimerization and (homo-, hetero-) dimer partner usage (e.g. with nuclear receptors such as RXR).
- ”o Regulation of expression: role(s) in development and aging;

signaling cross-talk; ligand feedback; receptor subtype expression.


”o Physiology/pathophysiology: issues of redundancy and/or compensation: mutations and polymorphisms which affect metabolic function and/or disease.

”o Target for therapeutics: putative ligands, partial agonists, antagonists, subtype specific factors (e.g. Selective Receptor Modulators or SRMs).

”o Orphan receptors in lower and model organisms: functional correlations with mouse and/or human.

”o New gene discovery based on data mining through genome databases.

”o Use of appropriate proteomics tools to determine the function of orphan nuclear receptors, associated cofactors, or gene targets.”

A bioinformatics resource is expected to be part of the effort with its objectives being to develop and utilize appropriate techniques and software to accomplish the complex data mining and other activities. Contact Ronald Margolis, Ph.D., Senior Advisor, Molecular Endocrinology, Division of Diabetes, Endocrinology, and Metabolism, NIDDK, at 301/594-8819; FAX: 301/435-6047. 

Title: Centers of Excellence in Chemical Methodologies and Library Development (CMLD Centers)

Agency: NIH - NIGMS / National Institute of General Medical Sciences

Identification: RFA: GM-01-006

Deadline: February 19, 2002, with letter of intent requested by January 8, 2002

The NIGMS is inviting applications for the establishment of three or four “...multi-investigator research centers whose mission will be to develop efficient, general, state-of-the-art methodologies for the design, synthesis, analysis, and handling of chemical diversity libraries.” These centers should be multi-disciplinary, having scientists from the subdisciplines of chemistry and from other related fields. A major requirement will be the development of a core synthesis facility for the testing of newly-developed methodologies for diversity-oriented syntheses and for the generation of chemical diversity libraries for study by high-throughput biological screening related to biological phenomena. A base in the chemical sciences must be coupled with outreach to biological research. Although a single institution will be the awardee, it is quite possible to have projects performed at multiple sites. Support will utilize the P50 (NIH Specialized Center Grant) mechanism. Initial award periods of five years may be requested with a budget of up to \$1.1 million in direct costs for the first year, plus additional funds for contractual arrangements and for the purchase of major equipment to establish the facility. The RFA for this initiative, published in the NIH Guide of June 22, 2001, gives this short list of examples of topics considered appropriate for investigation in a CMLD Center: “chemical reactions that will increase the diversity and/or quality of chemical libraries; new core scaffolds; methods for chemically derivatizing scaffolds; solid supports and linkers; new strategies for generating structural

diversity; fractionation, purification, and reagent scavenging techniques; assessment of library purity and diversity; strategies and/or instrumentation for automation of library synthesis; methods of sample preparation for biological screening of libraries; encoding and identification of the structures of active compounds within libraries; storage and maintenance of libraries; or managing data on chemical diversity libraries.” Contact John M. Schwab, Ph.D., Division of Pharmacology, Physiology, and Biological Chemistry, at 301/594-5560; FAX: 301/480-2802. ▼

NEUROLOGICAL DISORDERS

Title: Exploratory/Developmental Awards in Epilepsy Research for Junior Investigators

Agency: NIH - NINDS / National Institute of Neurological Disorders & Stroke

Identification: PAR-01-111

Deadline: Ongoing, with deadlines of October 1, February 1, and June 1

This program of the NINDS seeks proposals from two or more junior investigators in different institutions or different departments of the same institution who wish to pursue collaborative research related to the translation of basic findings in neurobiology to clinical applications in the area of epilepsy. The term “junior investigator” encompasses individuals with ranks of postdoctoral fellow to assistant professor. The research is expected to be related to “mechanisms for interrupting or modifying the process of epileptogenesis (i.e., approaches aimed at preventing the formation of a seizure focus in patients at risk for epilepsy); identification and characterization of genetic mutations that are the basis of inherited forms of epilepsy and which can provide a means of understanding the causes of seizures and determining treatment strategies; studies of the basic biology of neural development that might contribute to identification of the molecular basis for abnormalities observed in some patients; visualization of structural and functional changes in the brains of patients using advanced imaging technologies such as magnetic resonance spectroscopy, functional magnetic resonance imaging and magnetoencephalography; development of new classes of pharmacological agents and other effective therapeutic strategies such as focal brain stimulation and brain irradiation; and, innovative clinical trial methodologies to quickly identify effective antiepileptogenic interventions.” The program announcement, published in the NIH Guide of June 22, 2001, discusses each of these areas in some detail, giving examples of potential topics for research. Under this program, which utilizes the R21 funding mechanism (exploratory/developmental grants), project periods are limited to two years with annual budgets of no more than \$150,000 in direct costs. Pilot studies are targeted, in this case collaborative ones. Contact Margaret P. Jacobs, Program Director, Epilepsy Research, at 301/496-1917; FAX: 301/480-2424. ▼

Title: Autism Research Centers of Excellence: The STAART

Program

Agency: NIH - NIMH / National Institute of Mental Health; NICHD; NINDS; NIDCD; and NIEHS

Identification: RFA: MH-02-001

Deadline: November 29, 2001, with letter of intent requested by October 29, 2001. A second RFA with a deadline of August 29, 2002, is anticipated.

The five institutes identified above, which constitute the NIH Autism Coordinating Committee (NIH/ACC), are planning to fund at least five “Studies to Advance Autism Research and Treatment (STAART) Centers”, using the specialized cooperative research center (U54) mechanism. Funding will be for five years, with at least one competitive five-year renewal opportunity, with annual budgets of up to \$1.2 million in direct costs. Some of the centers will be funded by proposals from this RFA; a second round, with the August 29, 2002 deadline, will fund additional ones, up to the total of at least five. There may be later RFAs. An earlier RFA invited grants to support developmental efforts directed toward these STAART Centers. Recipients under that initiative, RFA MH-01-013, will support groups aiming at the later deadline. The current RFA, which was published in the NIH Guide of June 22, 2001, describes the objectives of the centers, the specific requirements, and the organizational features of the STAART Centers. Examples of research topics deemed suitable are given with emphasis on multidisciplinary and even multi-institutional, consortial, arrangements. There are five contacts identified, one from each institute. The first named is Steve Foote, Ph.D., Division of Neuroscience and Basic Behavioral Science, NIMH, at 301/443-3563; FAX: 301/443-1731. ▼

SUBSTANCE ABUSE


Title: International Tobacco and Health Research and Capacity Building Program

Agency: NIH - FIC / Fogarty International Center; NCI; NICHD; NIMH; NINR; and NIDA

Identification: RFA: TW-02-005

Deadline: October 26, 2001, with letter of intent requested by September 4, 2001

This RFA, published in the NIH Guide of June 29, 2001, seeks R01 applications to support a broad range of activities related to reducing tobacco usage in low- and middle-income nations through cooperative efforts involving investigators from high-income nations, particularly from the U.S., working with investigators in the low- to middle-income nations. The program has a primary objective of decreasing the use of tobacco in those locations, but is also directed toward establishing collaborative research which will familiarize the U.S. investigators and those from the other high-income nations with this type of research in the less developed parts of the world while building the capacity for the investigators in those areas to conduct such studies. Training and the building of long-term cooperative efforts are parts of the program. About six to eight grants, with award periods of up to five years, and annual budgets of up to \$400,000 in direct costs each, are anticipated.

The application may be from the U.S., another high-income country, or from a middle- or low-income country; however, there must be collaboration between a group from a middle- or low-income country and one from a high-income site. The program has a lot of objectives, specific requirements, and suggestions, spelled out in the RFA along with the background for the initiative. Included is a synopsis of the status of tobacco use and its health effects as a worldwide problem. The RFA also lists specific examples of the many categories of research being encouraged. They are classified under the following major headings: a) Epidemiological and Surveillance Research. b) Susceptibility and Risk. c) Biobehavioral and Social Research. d) Intervention Research. e) Policy-Related Research. A contact is identified from each of the participating NIH components. The one from the Fogarty International Center is Joel Breman, M.D., D.T.P.H., Division of International Training and Research, at 301/496-2516; FAX: 301/402-0779. 

TRAINING & CAREER DEVELOPMENT



Title: Rehabilitation Training: Rehabilitation Long-Term Training. Notice Inviting Applications for New Awards for Fiscal Year (FY) 2001

Agency: U.S. Department of Education


Identification: CFDA no.: 84.129A (Rehabilitation medicine); 84.129C (Rehabilitation administration); and 84.129L (Undergraduate education in the rehabilitation services)

Deadline: August 31, 2001

The Department of Education funds five-year projects to improve higher education related to rehabilitation. There are three types of grants reflecting differing types of education and training, as follow:

Rehabilitation medicine. Three grants of up to \$100,000/year each are being offered to support residency programs in physical medicine and rehabilitation.

Rehabilitation administration. Four grants of up to \$100,000/year each are offered to support projects that provide a specified series of courses or program of study leading to award of a certificate in designated areas of personnel shortages in rehabilitation.



Undergraduate education in the rehabilitation services. Nine awards are expected, up to \$75,000/year each, to improve undergraduate education in the rehabilitation services. Some special consideration is given to applications for all these awards where the applicant organization shows convincing evidence of employing and improving employment opportunities for individuals with disabilities in the activities of the awards. The announcement of this program and applications are available on the Internet at <<http://www.ed.gov/pubs/edpubs.html>>. Contact Beverly Steburg, Rehabilitation Services Administration, at 404/562-6336. 

Title: Interdisciplinary Grants in the Mathematical Sciences (IGMS)


Agency: NSF - National Science Foundation

Identification: NSF 01-115

Deadline: Ongoing, with next deadline of November 26, 2001, subsequent ones on the fourth Monday of each November

This program of the Division of Mathematical Sciences of the NSF offers grants of up to \$100,000 to enable mathematical scientists with tenure or tenure-track positions to spend a year working in an academic department where the grant-recipient will have the chance to expand his or her research expertise to a new, non-mathematical field where mathematical approaches are used. The objectives are to enable the mathematical scientists to "...expand their skills and knowledge in areas other than the mathematical sciences; subsequently apply this knowledge in their research; and enrich the educational experiences and broaden the career options of their students." This experience will prepare the awardee for improved opportunities for collaborative research with other scientists. Proposals must be submitted by the mathematical scientist's home institution where an official at the level of dean or above will serve as coPI and will indicate the impact of the potential award on the institution. A commitment from the host institution or department to provide the facilities and environment necessary to support the visiting mathematical scientist. The Program Solicitation for this initiative is available on the Internet at <<http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2001/nsf01115/nsf01115.htm>>. Contact Lloyd Douglas, Program Officer, Division of Mathematical Sciences, at 703/292-4862.; e-mail: <ldouglas@nsf.gov>. Ten awards are expected each year.  

Have you visited the Research Bulletin Board?

The Research Web Site hosts a new bulletin board for the MUSC research community. To visit the bulletin board from the MUSC Main Page, simply click on "Research" on the left side of your screen, then click on "bulletin board" in the top right sector. Feel free to post questions, job openings, inquiries about technologies or expertise. The intent is to provide a site where members of the MUSC research community at all stages of training and in any area of interest can develop a spontaneous forum to exchange information, swap resources or advertise a need or interest. 

Institutional Support for Research through the URC (University Research Committee)				
<i>The University provides support to strengthen the research capabilities of the faculty and to provide research training for residents interested in pursuing an academic career. Additional information and questions may be directed to the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs at 792-3838.</i>				
Deadline, Review and Funding Dates				
Institutional Application	Deadline Resident Application	Interim Funding Request	Review Decision by	Funding Dates
April 1 August 1 December 1	April 15 August 15 December 15	May 1 September 1 January 2	June 15 October 15 February 15	July 1 December 1 April 1

NIH STANDARD RECEIPT DATES AND REVIEW AND AWARD CYCLES

TYPES OF APPLICATIONS

Institutional National Research Service Awards*
 All Academic Research Enhancement Awards, except those involving AIDS-related research
 New Research Grants, Conferences, and Research Career Awards.
 All Program Project* and Center Grants* (New & Revised)
 Interactive Research Project Grants
 Competing Continuation, Supplemental, and Revised Grants
 Individual National Research Service Awards (Standard)**
 All AIDS-Related Grants

CYCLE I

January 10
 January 25
 February 1
 February 1
 February 15
 March 1
 April 5
 May 1

CYCLE II

May 10
 May 25
 June 1
 June 1
 June 15
 July 1
 August 5
 September 1

CYCLE III

September 10
 September 25
 October 1
 October 1
 October 15
 November 1
 December 5
 January 2

Scientific Merit Review	June-July	Oct-Nov.	February-March
Advisory Council Review	Sept-Oct	Jan-Feb	May-June
Earliest Project Start Date	December	April	July

*For these specialized grant applications, consult with the appropriate PHS awarding component prior to the preparation of an application, particularly if the requested budget exceeds \$500,000.

**The National Research Service Award Individual Predoctoral Fellowships for Minority Students and Students with Disabilities have special receipt dates.

Receipt Date Policy

- * An unsolicited, investigator-initiated application is considered on time if it is either (1) received by or (2) mailed on or before the published receipt date and a proof of mailing is provided. Proof of timely mailing consists of a legibly dated U.S. Postal Service postmark or a dated receipt from a commercial carrier or the U.S. Postal Service. Private metered postmarks are not acceptable. This policy also applies to unsolicited AIDS-related applications and to AREA applications.
- * Solicited applications and proposals must be received by the specified date. However, an application received after the deadline may be acceptable if it carries a legible proof-of-mailing date assigned by the carrier and the proof-of-mailing is not later than one week prior to the deadline date. Solicited applications include those in response to Requests for Applications (RFAs); Program Announcements (PAs) with specified receipt dates (dates other than the standard ones specified in the chart below), such as Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR), and Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR); and Requests for Proposals (RFPs).
- * Applications may be hand-delivered to the Rockledge Center, which is open 24 hours per day. To obtain a signed receipt for a hand-delivered application, the package must be delivered no later than 5:00 p.m. (Monday through Friday).
- * When a receipt date falls on a weekend or holiday, the receipt date will be the following business day.

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