Neurogenetic Therapies Programme

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The Neurogenetic Therapies Programme, funded by the Sigrid Rausing Trust, aims to accelerate the development and testing of novel genetics-based therapies for neurodegeneration and dementia. Preclinical and clinical projects will be supported in order to create a pipeline of new translational genetic therapies, from concept through to patients. Projects will be supported by both preclinical and clinical steering committees, as relevant. Therapeutic modalities may include, but not are limited to, viral delivered gene therapies, antisense oligonucleotide approaches. Novel approaches to delivery of neurogenetic therapies will also be considered. Partnerships with industry are welcome, as is co-funding from other sources.

The programme will provide awards between £10,000 to £250,000 to be used flexibly and against specific milestones.

This call focusses upon projects in the pre-clinical phase of the development of neurogenetic therapies.

Important dates:

- RFP open: 23 March 2020
- Proposals due: Midday 18 May 2020
- Recipients announced: July 2020
- Awards start: August 2020

Guidelines

1. Proposals are invited from UCL researchers. All applications will be treated as confidential.
2. The budget may be used to cover staff and travel, reagents, animal costs. Equipment costs will be permitted if essential to the project and reasonable within the overall cost of the proposal. Overheads will not be covered by the award.
3. It is the responsibility of the applicants to obtain all relevant clearances and/or approvals for the proposal work, such as those required for human tissue or animal research.
4. UK DRI Group Leaders with proposals related to non-genetic therapies should consider the UK DRI Translation Funding programme.
Selection criteria

1. Translation: proposals will be selected for funding according to their translational potential. A dedicated steering committee will support the development and execution of proposals.
2. Approach: a clearly articulated plan for progression of the project from idea through to in vivo proof of concept. Smaller projects which do not include progression to in vivo in the first instance are also welcome. A well-defined experimental plan punctuated by clear milestones of progression. The conceptual framework, design, methods, model systems and analysis plan which is well justified and appropriate to the aims of the proposal.

Rules and Requirements

1. The proposal must be submitted using the Neurogenetic Therapies Programme Expression of interest template (attached to this email).
2. The deadline for the receipt of the applications is midday 18th May 2020.
3. The entire package (3 pages maximum) must be emailed to a.kiely@ucl.ac.uk with the subject line Neurogenetics proposal [Name of applicant].
4. Format: All text must be Arial or Calibri 11-point font.

For any questions relevant to your application, please contact Aoife at a.kiely@ucl.ac.uk