Questions? Email questions@CureAccelerator.org

ReGRoW: Repurposing Research for the Rest of the World

Description / Background

This Request for Proposals (RFP) is for the Cures Within Reach ReGRoW Pilot, to provide repurposing research grants to researchers and clinicians in low and lower-middle income countries (LMICs), as defined by the World Bank (see https://data.worldbank.org/products/wdi-maps).

Repurposing research tests already approved and readily available medicines to determine if they are safe and effective in treating a different indication, thereby improving patient outcomes and quality of life. Repurposed medicines must be deemed safe and approved for human use by some regulatory agency, such as the US Food and Drug Administration, European Medicines Agency, Health Canada or Japan's Pharmaceuticals and Medical Devices Agency.

Repurposing research may also:

- Test combination therapies in order to increase efficacy, including combining the current disease treatment with a repurposed treatment
- Modify current treatment protocols to make them more effective, helping more patients for longer periods of time
- Repurpose therapies approved for use in adults into pediatric indications

This RFP is seeking clinical repurposing research projects to address any unsolved disease in LMICs. **We are interested in generic drugs, nutraceuticals or indigenous medicines only** that could be repurposed to create "new" treatments for any unsolved disease that:

- Reduces disease symptoms, progression or incidence; or
- Restores function lost to the disease; or
- Reduces or eliminate severe side effects of currently used therapies, thereby improving patient outcomes and quality of life

Submissions for this RFP will be reviewed, scored and ranked by an external grant review committee. **Up to four projects will be selected to present at our CureAccelerator Live! event on May 21, 2020 in Boston, MA, USA.** In order for their projects to be selected, Principal Investigators (PIs) must be willing to do one of the following:

- Attend the event and make a live pitch in person; a collaborator is not required to also attend
- Attend the event via video and make a live pitch via video; a collaborator must attend in person to answer questions during the poster session
- Have a collaborator attend the event and make a live pitch in person; the PI is not required to also attend, either in person or via video

We recommend that PIs who want to attend in person begin the visa process as soon as possible. Travel stipends to attend CureAccelerator Live! will be provided for PIs or presenting collaborators. At least one project will be selected for funding at CureAccelerator Live!, and others may be invited to submit a full grant for additional funding opportunities.

All PIs selected as finalists for CureAccelerator Live! will receive consultation from Cures Within Reach for the preparation of their presentations, and Cures Within Reach will create a poster for the project to be displayed during the event. Finalists will also provide a breakdown and justification for the total requested budget and a Research Roadmap that details the project's research objectives, timeline and success measures.

Eligible treatments will:

- Be already be approved by the FDA, EMA or other regulatory body, or be otherwise readily available for human use, such as a nutraceutical or an indigenous medicine
- Be available in generic form in the country where the research will be conducted
- Not be under patent protection anywhere in the world

Eligible projects will:

- Be proposed and conducted by researchers and clinicians located in low and lower-middle income countries, as defined by the World Bank (see https://data.worldbank.org/products/wdi-maps)
- Address any unsolved disease or medical condition
- Be human clinical research only; preference will be given to repurposing clinical research trials supported by strong scientific evidence or clinical observations
- Be completed in 12 – 36 months
- Be submitted in English only via the CureAccelerator platform

Eligible institutions will:

- Be located in low and lower-middle income countries, as defined by the World Bank (see https://data.worldbank.org/products/wdi-maps)
- Have received previous external, third party clinical research funding from government, NGO, private foundation or other sources
- Have a research Institutional Review Board (IRB), Ethics Review Committee or equivalent in place
- Follow the World Health Organization's or other regulatory agencies' standards for Good Laboratory Practice (GLP), Good Clinical Practice (GCP) and/or Good Laboratory and Clinical Practice (GLCP)
- Have past or current experience with human clinical research
- Preference will be given to institutions with established collaborations with institutions in high income countries

Please see the CureAccelerator FAQ page for more information about submitting a project on CureAccelerator. Additional submission instructions can be downloaded at this link: http://bit.ly/regrowinstructions

If you have eligibility questions, or if you have a repurposing idea that impacts patients in low and lower-middle income countries that isn't an exact fit for this RFP, please contact Clare Thibodeaux, PhD at clare@cureswithinreach.org to discuss fit and/or submission options.

Even if repurposing is not your area of expertise, you may be able to help! Please circulate this RFP to others who might be able to submit eligible clinical repurposing projects.

Diseases/Conditions	Treatments
	Any generic drugs, nutraceuticals or indigenous medicines

Project Type

- Human Clinical Trial

Timeline

Do you have a preference for where the research should take place?

This research can take place at any research institution in a low and lower-middle income countries (as defined by the World Bank; see https://data.worldbank.org/products/wdi-maps) that follow the World Health Organization's or other regulatory agency's standards for Good Laboratory Practice (GLP), Good Clinical Practice (GCP) and/or Good Laboratory and Clinical Practice (GLCP). Eligible institutions will also have a research Institutional Review Board (IRB), Ethics Review Committee or equivalent in place; have received previous external, third party clinical research funding from government, NGO, private foundation or other sources; and have past or current experience with human clinical research.

Do you have a preference for where you would like to see patient impact?

This RFP is open to treatments for any unsolved disease or unmet medical need that impacts patients in low and lower-middle income countries.

Restrictions

There are no other restrictions other than those described above.

Other Information for Researchers

Cures Within Reach primarily funds proof of concept clinical trials that can determine whether a repurposed therapy can have a direct and positive impact on patients. We are open to all clinical trial designs that have the opportunity to create a robust and well-defined outcome that will show reproducible clinical impact.

Principal Investigators (PIs) have the option to provide a link or web address for a brief video describing their repurposing research idea and the impact it could have on patients. The video should be no more than 5 minutes in length, 3 minute videos are preferred.

PIs will receive a decision on their project within approximately 4 weeks of the RFP deadline.

Funding Available

Minimum $25,000

Maximum $50,000

Funding Description

Cures Within Reach will accept REQUESTED PROJECT FUNDING amounts that are within the minimum and maximum amounts indicated above. Cures Within Reach REQUESTED PROJECT FUNDING must be sole, late or final funding for the project, as indicated in the CureAccelerator FAQ page. REQUESTED PROJECT FUNDING cannot be used for any indirect costs, although up to 10% of the REQUESTED PROJECT FUNDING can be used to cover direct project administrative costs.

Open to co-funding

Co-Funding Description

Cures Within Reach will accept projects that already have funding from another source and require additional funding, when funding from Cures Within Reach can help speed patient impact.

Due Date for Project Proposal Summary Submissions

03-01-2020
