

**Drug Targets and Mechanisms (DTM) Program of Excellence
Request for Proposals – Collaborative Pilot Studies Program Awards**

For Projects Beginning May 1, 2017

The DTM Program of Excellence is requesting applications from primary tenure-track faculty members in the Department of Pharmacology and Physiology for funding of interdepartmental collaborative pilot studies.

A one-year award of up to \$50,000 is planned (May 1, 2017 – April 30, 2018).

This RFP is open to all tenure-track primary faculty members in the Department of Pharmacology and Physiology. The project must involve a collaboration with a tenure-track faculty member in another department and/or center at the University of Rochester. Only one application per PI is permitted in response to this RFP. Additionally, it must be clear that the specific aims of the project can be completed within the allowed time period of one year.

This pilot studies program is intended to promote and facilitate new research relevant to the DTM purview that will directly lead to future extramural funding.

RFP Release Date: March 1, 2016

Submission Deadline: December 31, 2016

Award Decisions: March, 2017

Anticipated Start/End Dates: May 1, 2017 – April 30, 2018

Note: All animal and human subject protocols must be approved prior to the start date. No funds will be released for these purposes until the PI has received all required human subjects and animal welfare approvals.

Goals:

The overall goal of the DTM Program of Excellence Collaborative Pilot Studies Program is to support groundwork studies needed to enable interdepartmental collaborative projects within the DTM purview to become successful in securing extramural funding (e.g. R01, R21, foundation grants). In addition, the support provided by DTM pilot studies awards is expected to result in academic productivity in terms of publication of the proposed research.

Eligibility:

All primary tenure-track faculty members of the Department of Pharmacology and Physiology are eligible to serve as Principal Investigators. The collaborative project must also include a Co-Investigator who is a primary tenure-track faculty member from another department and/or center at the University of Rochester.

Allowable Costs:

The program will support costs normally allowable for NIH-funded research projects except as detailed below. Funding cannot be used to support equipment or faculty salary. Trainee and technical staff salary support is permitted, but must be justified in the proposal. Facilities and administrative costs or “indirect costs” will not be supported.

Format for Submission:

Please provide the following information using 11 pt arial font and 0.5 inch margins:

- (1) **Title Page:** NIH Format - include the following information:
 - a. Title of the project
 - b. PI name and contact information
 - c. Co-investigator name(s) and contact information
 - d. Total amount of money requested
 - e. Indication as to whether the application is new or a revision
 - f. Involvement of human subjects or vertebrate animals
- (2) **Abstract Page:** limited to 1 page that includes the following:
 - a. Project title and names of the PI and Co-Investigator(s)
 - b. A description of how project meets the priorities of the DTM Program of Excellence
 - c. Specific Aims of the project
 - d. A brief description of the research plan
 - e. No additional pages are permitted for a bibliography in the abstract. Any bibliographic information must be included within the one-page abstract.
- (3) **Detailed Budget Page:** NIH Format
 - a. 1 year, \$50,000 maximum
 - b. Faculty salary and equipment are not permitted
- (4) **Budget Justification Page:** NIH Format for detailed budget justification.
- (5) **Resources and Major Equipment Page:** NIH Format
- (6) **Biosketches:** NIH format for all Key Personnel
- (7) **Specific Aims (1 page)**
- (8) **Significance and Innovation (1 page)**
- (9) **Research Plan (5 pages maximum)**
- (10) **Plan for Transition to Extramural Funding (1 page)**
- (11) **References**

Submission:

Applications forms for this RFP can be obtained from Sandy Morgan. Completed forms must be submitted as a single PDF by 5:00 p.m. on 12/31/16 to: sandra_morgan@urmc.rochester.edu

Review Priorities:

Proposals with the best potential to establish and/or grow an interdepartmental collaboration that successfully leads to subsequent R01 or other extramural grant funding will receive the highest priority for funding.

Review Process:

Proposals will be reviewed by the DTM Program of Excellence Pilot Studies Review Committee and other selected *ad hoc* experts that subject the proposals to rigorous scientific evaluation. Following the review process and formal study section-style discussion and scoring, funding recommendations will be made to the Director of the DTM Program of Excellence and Chair of Pharmacology and Physiology for funding of the most meritorious projects.

Publications: All publications that benefit in whole or in part from support provided by this RFP must adhere to the following:

(1) Comply with the NIH Public Access Policy:

<http://www.urmc.rochester.edu/libraries/miner/publishing/NIHPublicAccessPolicyMinerLibrary.cfm>.

(2) Acknowledge support from the URM, Department of Pharmacology and Physiology, Drug Targets and Mechanisms Program of Excellence.

Presentation of Project Results: Upon completion of the project, the PI will present a seminar in the Department of Pharmacology and Physiology Seminar series summarizing the research findings and planned future directions.

Contacts: If you have questions regarding this RFP, please contact the following.

General Inquiries:

Sandy Morgan: sandra_morgan@urmc.rochester.edu

Scientific and Peer Review:

Robert Dirksen: Robert_Dirksen@urmc.rochester.edu

Financial Contact and Program Administration:

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