LIMITED SUBMISSION FUNDING OPPORTUNITY
http://som.ucsd.edu/funding-opportunities

Sponsor: National Institute of Health (NIH)
Participating Organization: National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID)
Title: Atopic Dermatitis Research Network (ADRN) (U19)
FOA Number: RFA-AI-14-033
Internal Review Deadline: Monday, May 19, 2014 5:00 pm
Sponsor Deadlines:
June 8, 2014 - Letter of Intent
July 8, 2014 5:00 PM Local time Application
Nominations allowed: One (1) per university
Award Amount: $6 million total costs
Duration: Maximum project period is (5) years

This is a limited submission opportunity requiring internal review; please see internal review instructions below.

Award Description: This Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) solicits applications from institutions to administer a multi-project, multi-institution program to conduct clinical research and provide the leadership and administrative responsibilities for the Atopic Dermatitis Research Network (ADRN). The ADRN conducts clinical research studies to better understand host defense mechanisms in the skin, by comparing responses to infections and vaccines, and underlying mechanisms, in healthy, non-atopic individuals vs. those with atopic dermatitis (AD). Such effects include skin barrier and adaptive and innate immune system responses to viral and bacterial infections, and genetic and epigenetic studies. The scope of research supported under this FOA will include the role of the microbiome in regulating host defense, and the development of clinical interventions to enhance host defense. The FOA will also support the conduct of longitudinal studies aiming at the identification of AD phenotypes pertaining to clinical presentation, skin and peripheral blood immunologic responses and patterns of cutaneous host defense.

General areas of research interest that are responsive to this FOA include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Studying the microbiome in AD and its role in disease pathogenesis, including studies of alterations in the cutaneous or other microbiome in patients with AD compared to healthy controls, longitudinal studies of the skin microbiome, and evaluation of the effects of microbiome changes on cutaneous host defense.
- Blocking the effects of specific cytokines/chemokines.
- Cutaneous application of anti-microbial peptides and altering the skin microbiome.
- Evaluating the immunologic, genetic and epigenetic mechanisms underlying therapeutic interventions.
- Comparing new AD phenotypes to the subsets which have been explored to date by the ADRN, namely those with (1) a history of disseminated cutaneous viral infections (EV and EH), (2) cutaneous bacterial colonization/infections (SA including MRSA), (3) filaggrin deficiency, and (4) clinically severe AD.
- Understanding the susceptibility of subjects with AD to viral infections (EV and EH).
- Understanding the susceptibility of subjects with AD to bacterial infections (colonization and infection with SA including MRSA).
- Evaluating responses to vaccines of subjects with AD, with the focus on the difference between cutaneous and non-cutaneous routes of administration.
- Comparing the responses to cutaneous infections or vaccines of specific subsets of AD subjects such as ADEH; AD with SA colonization/infection; AD with filaggrin deficiency; clinically severe AD, to patients who do not have those characteristics.
- Investigating the genomic and epigenomic control of AD phenotype, by evaluating non-atopic controls versus AD patients with and without EH.
- Developing animal models to evaluate host defense in AD.
- Evaluating immunologic, genetic and epigenetic mechanisms underlying change in the skin microbiome in animal models and comparing to data from human AD subjects.


Eligible Individuals: (Program Director/Principal Investigator) Any individual(s) with the skills, knowledge, and resources necessary to carry out the proposed research as the Program Director(s)/Principal Investigator(s) (PD(s)/PI(s)) is invited to work with his/her organization to develop an application for support. See Section V. Application Review Information, Scored Review Criteria/Investigators for specific criteria.

For institutions/organizations proposing multiple PDs/PIs, visit the Multiple Program Director/Principal Investigator Policy and submission details in the Senior/Key Person Profile (Expanded) Component of the SF424 (R&R) Application Guide.
INTERNAL REVIEW INSTRUCTIONS:

Required documentation:

- **Summary Page (1 page)**
  - Complete contact information of PI including: full name and current academic title with the university, department, phone number, email address
  - Title of this funding opportunity
  - Descriptive title of proposed research
  - Names of other key personnel (if applicable)
  - Participating institutions (if applicable)

- **Proposal (maximum of 2-4 pages)**
  Tailored to address the sponsor’s goals/focus (full details online, see review criteria) and including:
  - Goals and a statement of the importance of the research
  - Specific aims
  - Method of procedure

- **Biographical Sketch (maximum of 4 pages)**
  - Including other support

- **COMBINE ALL DOCUMENTS LISTED ABOVE INTO ONE PDF and email to Limited Submission Committee at hsfunding@ucsd.edu by the date and TIME listed above.**
- **In the body of your submission email, include your full name and contact information (often accomplished by including an email signature).**

UCSD will prescreen and select 1 applicant, as allowed by the sponsor, to move forward to the full application stage.

All applications for funding must also be reviewed by the Office of Contracts and Grant Administration (OCGA). Upon receiving notification of passing internal review, the selected PI(s) will also be given the contact information for the appropriate OCGA officer. Coordination of the OCGA review will be direct between the PI and their OCGA contact.

**CONTACTS**

Internal Contact for Questions:
Cecilia Jamous, Coordinator for Limited Submission Funding Opportunities
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