



Pfizer Announces

Establishment of Support System for Healthy Life Extension of Patients with Stroke and Cardiovascular Diseases in the Convalescent to Chronic Stage

Competitive Grant Program – using Expert Review Panel

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Note this RFP is also available in [Japanese](#) for your convenience

I. Background

Pfizer Global Medical Grants (GMG) supports the global healthcare community's independent initiatives (e.g., research, quality improvement or education) to improve patient outcomes in areas of unmet medical need that are aligned with Pfizer's medical and/or scientific strategies.

Pfizer's GMG competitive grant program involves a publicly posted Request for Proposal (RFP) that provides detail regarding a specific area of interest, sets timelines for review and approval, and uses an external review panel (ERP) to make final grant decisions. Organizations are invited to submit an application addressing the specific gaps in practice as outlined in the specific RFP.

For all quality improvement grants, the grant requester (and ultimately the grantee) is responsible for the design, implementation, and conduct of the independent initiative supported by the grant. Pfizer must not be involved in any aspect of project development, nor the conduct or monitoring of the quality improvement program.

II. Eligibility

Geographic Scope:	Japan
Applicant Eligibility Criteria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The following may apply: medical, dental, nursing, allied health, and/or pharmacy professional schools; healthcare institutions (both large and small); professional associations and medical societies; medical education companies; and other entities with a mission related to healthcare professional education and/or healthcare improvement. If the project involves multiple departments within an institution and/or between different institutions / organizations / associations. all institutions must have a relevant role and the requesting organization must have a key role in the project. <p>For projects offering continuing education credit, the requesting organization must be accredited.</p>

III. Requirements

Date RFP Issued	April 15, 2021
Clinical Area	Cardiovascular (CV)
Specific Area of Interest for this RFP:	<p>Based on “the Basic Act on Stroke, Heart Disease, and Other Cardiovascular Disease Measures for Extending Healthy Longevity (enforced in December 2019)¹”, “Basic Plan for Promoting Cardiovascular Disease Measures (October 2020)²” were set.</p> <p>Focusing on one of three overall goals set forth in these plans, “(2) Strengthening of the Availability of Health, Medical Care, and Welfare Services”, Pfizer invite the public to propose programs that aim to benefit patients with cerebro-cardiovascular disease in the recovery- to chronic-stage after acute-phase treatment by contributing to reducing health disparities and improving the availability of appropriate care for specific symptoms and support for socializing in their living communities.</p> <p>Projects as shown below, including construction of a system/organization to put the knowledge into practice and/or to lead to results, would be eligible for the support in this RFP.</p> <p>Please note that educational programs intended <u>only</u> to acquire knowledge are not subsidized.</p> <p>Examples of proposals are as follows,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promoting cooperation for smooth referral from acute-phase hospitals to

	<p>convalescent/chronic-phase hospitals</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creating a structure for smooth regional cooperation using the existing electronic patients data • Development of a collaboration system that enables different types of specialists to guide and support patients for medical care, nutrition, medication, and rehabilitation • A project to improve the functions of primary care physicians and promote hospital-clinic cooperation, which intends to ensure that patients receive lifestyle modification advice for prevention of recurrence or exacerbation of cardiovascular disease as well as appropriate care and management such as drug compliance • A project to promote the practice of rehabilitation in patients with cardiovascular disease as a multidisciplinary disease management program • A project to increase the quality of specialist palliative care and thereby lead to improvement in the QOL of patients and their families • Creating a simple effective system to communicate knowledge on sequelae of cardiovascular disease and other necessary information <p>It is not our intent to support clinical research projects. Projects evaluating the efficacy of therapeutic or diagnostic agents will not be considered. Information on how to submit requests for support of clinical research projects can be found at Investigator Sponsored Research</p> <p>More information can be found at Quality Improvement Grants</p>
<p>Target Audience:</p>	<p>Physicians (specialists, primary care physicians, etc.), nurses, public health nurses, pharmacists, dentists, healthcare professionals engaged in the care of patients with cardiovascular disease, physiotherapists, occupational therapists, speech therapists, registered dietitians, cardiac rehabilitation instructors, certified heart failure educators, medical social workers, etc.</p> <p><i>NOTE: Projects whose target is "Patients only" are not eligible.</i></p>
<p>Disease Burden Overview:</p>	<p>Stroke, heart disease and other circulatory disorders (hereafter called "cardiovascular disease"), the major cause of death in Japan, have a significant impact on the life and health of the people and on the entire society.²</p> <p>In light of this, "the Basic Act on Stroke, Heart Disease, and Other Cardiovascular Disease Measures for Extending Healthy Longevity (Act No.105 of 2018)" was established in December 2018 and enforced in December 2019. The purpose of the Act is to comprehensively and systematically promote a wide range of cardiovascular disease control measures, including prophylactic, medical, and welfare services, to extend healthy life expectancy for a long active life and reduce the burden on medical and nursing care. To this goal, in order to comprehensively and</p>

	<p>systematically promote cardiovascular disease control measures, the basic policy was specified, and then “Basic Plan for Promoting Cardiovascular Disease Measures” were set in October 2020 as a guide for local governments in developing the disease control measures in a prefecture level. National and local public organizations and medical insurers are supposed to work together with the people in the future based on this Plans, taking into account the opinions of health, medical, and welfare service providers.²</p>
<p>Barriers:</p>	<p>Cardiovascular disease is characterized by repeated recurrence and exacerbation, and due to sequelae after stroke or deterioration of physical function after treatment of cardiovascular disease, patients may result in a condition requiring support for daily living or nursing care. Therefore, it is necessary to provide appropriate management and care even after the acute phase and to establish a seamless rehabilitation care system in the local area.²</p> <p>However, many barriers as shown below exist as it stands now.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In addition to uneven distribution of medical resources and large regional health disparities, mutual cooperation is lacked between primary care physicians and the availability of sustainable rehabilitation care, prophylactic treatment for relapse, and support system for patients with sequelae is also poor^{2,3} • There is a demand for a continuous rehabilitation system uninterrupted between medical and nursing care, approaches aiming for prevention of relapse and severe outcomes and for helping the patient put his/her life and employment back, and the frameworks for interdisciplinary collaboration using local medical and social resources efficiently with the development of experts^{2,3} • Enhancement of palliative care system is required^{2,3} • Development of support systems is required to ensure that patients with sequelae can receive appropriate diagnosis and treatment and live in the society without difficulty (including employment and financial support), as well as necessary welfare services^{2,3}
<p>Expected Approximate Monetary Range of Grant Applications:</p>	<p>Individual projects requesting up to 15,000,000 JPY will be considered. The amount of the grant Pfizer will be prepared to fund for any project will depend upon the external review panel’s evaluation of the proposal and costs involved and will be stated clearly in the approval notification.</p>
<p>Key Dates:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RFP release date: April 15, 2021 • LOI due date: May 31, 2021 Please note the deadline is midnight Eastern Time (New York, GMT -5). • Review of LOIs by External Review Panel: July 2021 • Anticipated LOI Notification Date: August 2021 • Full Proposal Deadline: September 2021*

	<p>*Only accepted LOIs will be invited to submit full proposals</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review of Full Proposals by External Review Panel: September 2021 • Anticipated Full Proposal Notification Date: October 2021 • Grants distributed following execution of fully signed Letter of Agreement • Anticipated Project Start and End Dates: January 2022 – December 2023
<p>How to Submit:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Please go to www.cybergrants.com/pfizer/loi and sign in. First-time users should click “Create your password”. • In the application: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Select the following Project Type: “<i>Quality Improvement</i>”. ○ Select the following Primary Area of Interest: “<i>CVM-XXX</i>” ○ Select the following Competitive Grant Program Name: “<i>2021 GMG L- Establishment of Support System for Healthy Life Extension of Patients with CV disease</i>” • Requirements for submission: Complete all required sections of the online application and upload the completed LOI template (see Appendix). • If you encounter any technical difficulties with the website, please click the “Technical Questions” link at the bottom of the page. <p>IMPORTANT: Be advised applications submitted through the wrong application type and/or submitted after the due date will not be reviewed by the committee.</p>
<p>Questions:</p>	<p>If you have questions regarding this RFP, please direct them in writing to the Grant Officer, Akihiro Kamina (meg.japan@pfizer.com), with the subject line “<i>2021 GMG L- Establishment of Support System for Healthy Life Extension of Patients with CV disease</i>”</p>
<p>Grant Agreements:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If your grant is approved, your institution will be required to enter into a written grant agreement with Pfizer. Please click here to view the core terms of the agreement. • Pfizer has drafted the terms of these agreements to be balanced and reasonable and to further the goals of both parties. Negotiating grant agreements requires significant resources, so please ensure that your institution (including your legal department) is able and willing to abide by these terms before proceeding with submission of your application as they will need to be accepted in their entirety.
<p>Review and Approval Process:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A specific grant program RFP uses an expert review panel (ERP) to make final grant decisions. • The panels are comprised of professionals from the medical community with advanced degrees and expertise in particular clinical areas, or

	specific needs of a geographic region/learner group, or expertise in research, continuing professional development or quality improvement
Mechanism by which Applicants will be Notified:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• All applicants will be notified via email by the dates noted above.• Applicants may be asked for additional clarification or to make a summary presentation during the review period.

References:

1. **The Basic Act on Stroke and Cardiovascular Disease Control for Extension of Healthy Life Expectancy (2019)**
2. **The Basic Plan for Promotion of Measures against Cardiovascular Diseases (Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare, 2020)**
3. **The Council for Promotion of Measures against Cardiovascular Diseases (<https://www.mhlw.go.jp/stf/shingi/junkanki.html>)**

IV. Terms and Conditions

Please take note every Request for Proposal (RFP) released by Pfizer Independent Grants for Learning & Change (IGLC), as well as a RFP released jointly with a Partner(s), is governed by specific terms and conditions. Click [here](#) to review these terms and conditions.

Appendix A

Letter of Intent Requirements

The Letter of Intent (LOI) will be accepted via the online application. When answering the LOI questions in the application please keep the following in mind:

Goals and Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Briefly state the overall goal of the project. Also describe how this goal aligns with the focus of the RFP and the goals of the applicant organization(s). List the <i>overall</i> objectives you plan to meet with your project both in terms of learning and expected outcomes. Objectives should describe the target population as well as the outcomes you expect to achieve as a result of conducting the project.
Assessment of Need for the Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Please include a quantitative baseline data summary, initial metrics (e.g., quality measures), or a project starting point (please cite data on gap analyses or relevant patient-level data that informs the stated objectives) in <i>your</i> target area. Describe the source and method used to collect the data. Describe how the data was analyzed to determine that a gap existed. If a full analysis has not yet been conducted, please include a description of your plan to obtain this information.
Target Audience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Describe the primary audience(s) targeted for this project. Also indicate whom you believe will directly benefit from the project outcomes. Describe the overall population size as well as the size of your sample population
Project Design and Methods	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Describe the planned project and the way it addresses the established need. If your methods include educational activities, please describe succinctly the topic(s) and format of those activities
Innovation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explain what measures you have taken to assure that this project idea is original and does not duplicate other projects or materials already developed. Describe how this project builds upon existing work, pilot projects, or ongoing projects developed either by your institution or other institutions related to this project.
Evaluation and Outcomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In terms of the metrics used for the needs assessment, describe how you will determine if the practice gap was addressed for the target group. Describe how you expect to collect and analyze the data. Quantify the amount of change expected from this project in terms of your target audience.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Describe how the project outcomes will be broadly disseminated.
Anticipated Project Timeline	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide an anticipated timeline for your project including project start/end dates
Additional Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If there is any additional information you feel Pfizer should be aware of concerning the importance of this project, please summarize here
Organization Detail	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Describe the attributes of the institutions / organizations / associations that will support and facilitate the execution of the project and the leadership of the proposed project. Articulate the specific role of each partner in the proposed project. Letters of support from partner organizations will be required at the Full Proposal stage only and should not be included with the LOI.
Budget Detail	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A total amount requested is the only information needed for the LOI stage. Full Budget is not required. This amount can be adjusted at the Full Proposal stage as applicable. The budget amount requested must be in Japanese YEN (JPY). While estimating your budget please keep the following items in mind: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Institutional overhead and indirect costs may be included within the grant request. Examples include human resources department costs, payroll processing and accounting costs, janitorial services, utilities, property taxes, property and liability insurance, and building maintenance as well as additional project expenses such as costs for publication, IRB / IEC review fees, software license fees, and travel. Please note: Pfizer does not provide funding for capital equipment. The inclusion of these costs cannot cause the amount requested to exceed the budget limit set forth in the RFP. It should be noted that grants awarded through GMG cannot be used to purchase therapeutic agents (prescription or non-prescription). Consumption tax should be included in your budget. Pfizer maintains a company-wide, maximum allowed overhead rate of 28% for independent studies and projects.