



**Pfizer and British Medical Journal Announces an  
Independent Medical Education Grant RFP**

***Developing Clinical Research and publication Skills  
Competitive Grant Program - using Expert Review Panel***

## **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 general Request for Proposal (RFP) that provides detail regarding a general area of interest, sets timelines for review and approval, and uses an expert review panel (ERP) to make final grant decisions. Organizations are invited to submit an application addressing the knowledge gaps as outlined in the specific RFP.

The mission of the British Medical Journal (The BMJ) is to publish rigorous, accessible, and entertaining material that will help doctors and medical students in their daily practice, lifelong learning, and career development. As well as publishing research, BMJ (in collaboration with the University of San Francisco California (USFC)) has developed the "Research to Publication programme" which is part of BMJ's commitment to building medical research capabilities around the world. Research to Publication is a gold standard online programme of self-study courses to enable doctors and healthcare researchers to develop clinical research skills, write the best possible papers, and succeed in getting papers published.

For all **independent medical education 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 of the independent education program.

## II. Eligibility

<b>Geographic Scope:</b>	Asia, AfME, Latin America and China
<b>Applicant Eligibility Criteria</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Only organizations are eligible to receive grants, not individuals or medical practice groups.</li><li>• 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.</li><li>• 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.</li></ul>

## III. Requirements

<b>Date RFP Issued</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• June 3, 2021</li></ul>
<b>Clinical Area</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• No specific clinical area</li></ul>
<b>General Area of Interest for this RFP:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Pfizer and the BMJ invite academic and healthcare organizations with an interest in conducting clinical research, epidemiological/public health research and/or health services research to apply for access to the Research to Publication course with the purpose of improving the conduct of, and publication rate. Please note that Research to Publication programme is not intended to support researchers with improving basic science research skills.</li><li>• BMJ's Research to Publication is a gold standard online programme of self-study courses to enable doctors and healthcare researchers to develop clinical research skills, write the best possible papers, and succeed in getting papers published. For more information on what the programme entails and how your institution may benefit from access, visit <a href="http://rtop.bmj.com">rtop.bmj.com</a>.</li><li>• It is expected that all applications will include a needs assessment detailing why access to the programme would benefit the applying organization, and also an implementation plan detailing how the training will be utilized and disseminated, and to how many individuals.</li></ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Priority will be given to applications from organizations with the most comprehensive implementation plans.</li> </ul> <p><i>It is not our intent to support clinical research projects. Projects evaluating the efficacy of therapeutic or diagnostic agents will not be considered.</i></p>
<p><b>Target Audience:</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Academic and healthcare organizations with an interest in conducting clinical research, epidemiological/public health research and/or health services research.</li> <li>• Individual applications requesting institution access for up to; 50, 100, 150, 200, 250 Research to Publication programme users and then over 250 Research to Publication programme users will be considered.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Expected Approximate Monetary Range of Grant Applications:</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Please note that no funds will be transferred to the organizations to whom access to the BMJ online programme is awarded. Access will be purchased on behalf of the successful organizations by Pfizer, and access granted to the organization by BMJ.</li> <li>• The funding required for provision of access for users increases with the number of users included within the application, and as such, it is important that the projected outcomes of the application are commensurate with the number of program users requested.</li> <li>• Pfizer will clearly state in the contract the number of users that shall be granted access at that institution.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Key Dates:</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• RFP release date: June 3, 2021</li> <li>• Grant Application due date: July 29, 2021</li> </ul> <p>Please note the deadline is 23:59 Eastern Standard Time (e.g. New York, GMT -5).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review of applications by Expert Review Panel: September 2021</li> <li>• Anticipated Grant Award Notification Date: October 2021</li> <li>• Grants will be distributed following a fully executed agreement.</li> <li>• Anticipated Project Start and End Dates: November 2021 to December 2022</li> </ul>
<p><b>How to Submit:</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Please go to <a href="http://www.cybergrants.com/pfizer/knowledge">www.cybergrants.com/pfizer/knowledge</a> and sign in. First-time users should click “Create your password”.</li> <li>• In the application:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ For the question “What type of request are you submitting?”</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

	<p>select Response to a Request for Proposal (RFP)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ For the question “Are you replying to a Request for Proposal as part of the Competitive Grant Program?” select Yes</li> <li>○ Select the following Competitive Grant Program Name: <b>2021 Research to Publication</b></li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Requirements for submission: Complete all required sections of the online application and upload your project proposal (see Appendix) in the General RFP Submission field.</li> <li>● Enter \$0 in the Amount Requested from Pfizer</li> <li>● If you encounter any technical difficulties with the website, please click the “Technical Questions” link at the bottom of the page.</li> </ul> <p><b>IMPORTANT:</b> Be advised applications submitted after the due date will not be reviewed by the committee.</p>
<p><b>Questions:</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● If you have questions regarding this RFP, please direct them in writing to the Grant Officer, Renee Yip via email at <a href="mailto:Renee.Yip@Pfizer.com">Renee.Yip@Pfizer.com</a> with the subject line “Pfizer/BMJ Developing Clinical Research and Publication Skills.”</li> </ul>
<p><b>Grant Agreements:</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● If your grant is approved, your institution will be required to enter into a written grant agreement with Pfizer. Please click <a href="#">here</a> to view the core terms of the agreement.</li> <li>● 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.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Review and Approval Process</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● A specific grant program RFP uses an expert review panel (ERP) to make final grant decisions.</li> <li>● 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.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Mechanism by which Applicants will be Notified:</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● All applicants will be notified via email by the dates noted above.</li> <li>● Applicants may be asked for additional clarification during the review period.</li> </ul>

## Appendix A

### General RFP Submission Requirements

**Project Proposals should be single-spaced using Calibri 12-point font and 1-inch margins. Note there is a 15-page limit exclusive of references. Please include the following:**

<p><b>Goals and Objectives</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Background Information about the applying institution – areas of research interest, publication history (including, if available, current publication acceptance rate), geographical focus for research, areas for improvement etc.</li> <li>• Briefly state the organization’s overall goal of receiving access to Research to Publication. Also describe how this goal aligns with the focus of the RFP and the goals of the applicant organization(s).</li> <li>• List the overall objectives you plan to meet through the access to Research to Publication 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 receiving access to Research to Publication.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Needs Assessment for the Project</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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 data that informs the stated objectives) in your target area (e.g. current publication acceptance rate, average impact factor of journals accepting publications from your institution, data detailing rates of research published in local journals or international journals, data on publication rates in open access versus traditional journals etc.). Describe the source and method used to collect the data Describe how the data was analyzed to determine that a gap in research and/or publication success existed. If a full analysis has not yet been conducted, please include a description of your plan to obtain this information.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Target Audience</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Detail how many users within your organization that you would like to have access to BMJ Research to Publication programme.</li> <li>• Describe the primary audience(s) targeted to receive access to Research to Publication.</li> <li>• Also indicate whom you believe will directly benefit from the training, and to whom there may be a secondary benefit.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Project Design and Methods</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Describe how you plan to implement the use of research to publication and the way it addresses the established need.</li> <li>• If your methods include dissemination activities, please describe succinctly the how these activities will take place.</li> <li>• Provide name and contact information for a main coordinator as well as a secondary contact in the event that the original coordinator moves on.</li> </ul>

<b>Innovation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Describe how obtaining access to, and utilizing Research to Publication builds upon existing work, pilot projects, or ongoing projects developed either by your institution or other institutions related to improving research and publication rates in your organization.</li> </ul>
<b>Evaluation and Outcomes</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In terms of the metrics used for the need assessment, describe how you will determine if the education and practice gap was addressed for the target group. Describe how you expect to collect and analyze the data.</li> <li>Quantify the amount of change expected from access to Research to Publication in terms of your target audience.</li> <li>Describe how the project outcomes will be broadly disseminated.</li> </ul>
<b>Dissemination Plan</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Describe how the project may have extended benefit beyond the grant. Will the teaching materials be made available to others to use? Will there be tools or resources that are made publicly available beyond the initial project. Describe how the project outcomes might be broadly disseminated.</li> </ul>
<b>Anticipated Project Timeline</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide an anticipated timeline for your project including project start/end dates.</li> </ul>
<b>Additional Information</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If there is any additional information you feel Pfizer should be aware of concerning the importance of this project, please summarize it in within the page limitations.</li> </ul>
<b>Organization Detail</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Describe the attributes of any 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. Where applicable, letters of support from partner organizations should be provided.</li> <li>Please note that any project partners listed in this section should also be listed within the online system. Tax-IDs of partner organizations will be requested when entering this information. If a partnership is only proposed, please indicate the nature of the relationship in the Organizational Detail section of your proposal.</li> </ul>