

# Pfizer Quality Improvement RFP

## *Mental Health in Rheumatology*

Competitive Grant Program –Pfizer Internal Review Process



### Overview

This competitive grant program seeks to address patient mental health in rheumatology considering values of diversity, equity, and inclusion.



### Geographic Scope

Canada



### Project Types and Area of Interest

#### Mental Health in Rheumatology

Quality improvement (QI) Projects that will be considered for Pfizer support will focus on improving access and care for rheumatology patients affected by mental health issues.

Quality Improvement (QI) projects must include a plan for measuring impact or outcomes. All intervention types within a QI framework are in-scope for this RFP including technology-based solutions, education or training initiatives, coordination of care between multiple centers or specialties, workflow or algorithm implementations, etc.



### Key Milestones

- Application submission deadline: April 6, 2023
- Anticipated decision notification date: May 22, 2023
- Anticipated project start date: June 22, 2023



### Funding Range and Project Length

Individual projects requesting up to \$60,000 CAD will be considered. The estimated total available budget related to this RFP is \$240,000 CAD. Project length will be a maximum of 18 months.

## I. Eligibility

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### Geographic Scope:

- Canada

### Applicant Eligibility Criteria

- The following may apply: medical, 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.
- For projects offering continuing education credit, the requesting organization must be accredited.
- Only organizations are eligible to receive grants, not individuals or medical practice groups.

## II. Requirements

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### Date RFP Issued

- February 8, 2023

### Clinical Area

- Rheumatology

### General Area of Interest for this RFP:

#### **Mental Health in Rheumatology**

This competitive grant program seeks to address patient mental health in rheumatology considering values of diversity, equity, and inclusion.

Quality improvement (QI) Projects that will be considered for Pfizer support will focus on improving access and care for rheumatology patients affected by mental health issues, through the implementation of innovative solutions aimed at:

- Improving the referral and flow process of patients to medical centers
- Supporting collaboration among health care providers within a multidisciplinary team environment to improve patient management
- Improving treatment adherence  
Implementing health care technologies (mobile or web-based tools) for telehealth and remote monitoring

**IMPORTANT:** We are seeking to support Quality Improvement initiatives. It is not our intent to support any type of educational programs or clinical research projects. Projects evaluating the efficacy of therapeutic or diagnostic agents will not be considered.

### Target Audience

- Rheumatologists, primary care clinicians and other relevant HCPs that treat patients with rheumatological conditions
- Patient advocacy groups that support rheumatology patients affected by mental health issues

### Expected Approximate Monetary Range of Grant Applications:

- Individual projects requesting up to \$60,000 CAD will be considered. The estimated total available budget related to this RFP is \$240,000 CAD.

**IMPORTANT: We are seeking to support Quality Improvement initiatives. It is not our intent to support any type of educational programs or clinical research projects. Projects evaluating the efficacy of therapeutic or diagnostic agents will not be considered.**

### Key Dates:

- RFP release date: 2/8/2023
- Grant Application due date: 4/6/2023
  - Please note the deadline is 23:59 Eastern Standard Time (e.g., New York, GMT -5).
- Anticipated Grant Award Notification Date: 5/22/2023
- Grants will be distributed following a fully executed agreement.
- Anticipated Approximate Project Start and End Dates (18-month project maximum timeline): 6/22/2023 to 12/22/2024

### How to Submit:

Note: Please read this section carefully since applications submitted not following these instructions will not be accepted and will be cancelled

- Please go to [www.cybergrants.com/pfizer/QI](http://www.cybergrants.com/pfizer/QI) and sign in. First-time users should click "Create your password". *[Note: there are individual portals for each grant application type. Please be sure to use the URL above.]*
- Click the "Start a New Quality Improvement Application" button.
- In the application:
  - For the question "Competitive Grant?" select Yes
  - Select the following Competitive Grant Program Name: 2023 I&I Canada Mental Health in Rheumatology QI
  - Select the following Primary Area of Interest: Mental Health in Rheumatology
- Requirements for submission:

Complete all required sections of the online application and upload your project proposal (see Appendix) in the Full Proposal Submission field.
- If you encounter any technical difficulties with the website, please click the "Technical Questions" link at the bottom of the page.

**IMPORTANT:** Be advised applications submitted after the due date will not be reviewed.

### Questions:

- If you have questions regarding this RFP, please direct them in writing to the Grant Officer, Sarthak Pandit ([sarthak.pandit@pfizer.com](mailto:sarthak.pandit@pfizer.com)), with the subject line "Mental Health in Rheumatology Feb 8<sup>th</sup>, 2023"

## Grant Agreements:

- 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.
- Payment will only be made to requesting Institution.

## Review and Approval Process

- Grant requests received in response to a general RFP are reviewed by Pfizer to make final grant decisions.

## Mechanism by which Applicants will be Notified:

- All applicants will be notified via email by the dates noted above.
- Applicants may be asked for additional clarification during the review period.

## References

- Bibliography of relevant references.

## About Pfizer Global Medical Grants

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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 general area of interest, sets timelines for review and approval, and uses an internal Pfizer review process to make final grant decisions. Organizations are invited to submit an application addressing the practice gaps as outlined in the specific RFP.

For all independent 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.

## Appendix

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### Quality Improvement Project Full Proposal

Applications will be accepted via the online portal listed in the [How to Submit](#) section. Full Proposal documents should be no longer than 10-15 pages in length (12-point font and 1-inch margins) excluding Organization Detail and References. When uploading your Full Proposal please ensure it addresses the following sections:

#### Goals and Objectives

- 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 overall 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

- 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 your 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

- 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

- 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

- 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

- 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.
- Describe how the project outcomes will be broadly disseminated.

#### Anticipated Project Timeline

- Provide an anticipated timeline for your project including project start/end dates.

### Additional Information

- If there is any additional information you feel Pfizer should be aware of concerning the importance of this project, please summarize here

### Organization Detail

- 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.

### Budget Detail

- The budget amount requested must be in Canadian dollars (CAD).
- While estimating your budget please keep the following items in mind:
  - General organizational running costs such as insurances, heating, lighting, rent, building maintenance may be included. Pfizer does not provide funding for capital purchases (infrastructure expenses such as equipment, purchases of software or software licenses, technology or bricks and mortar). Equipment hire/leasing is acceptable and may be included in project budget.
  - 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 Pfizer therapeutic agents (prescription or non-prescription).
- Pfizer maintains a company-wide, maximum allowed overhead rate of 28% for independent studies and projects. Please [click here](#) for details.