



Pfizer Quality Improvement RFP INNOVative Multi-disciplinary Clinical Management of INflammatory Diseases, 2023 IT INNOVA-MIND

Competitive Grant Program – using Expert Review Panel

Overview

Pfizer is launching a competitive grant program seeking to support Quality Improvement projects that will implement strategies measurably improving the quality of care and best practices around the management of adults patients with Atopic Dermatitis (AD), Rheumatoid Arthritis (RA), Psoriatic Arthritis (PsA), Ankylosing Spondylitis (AS) and Ulcerative Colitis (UC).

The intent of this RFP is to encourage proposals for the implementation of multi-disciplinary team care models.

Geographic Scope

Italy

Project Types and Area of Interest

Potential applicants are encouraged to propose multi-disciplinary team projects focused on improving the quality of patient care, the outcomes and prognosis of adult patients eligible for advanced therapies (i.e. biologic drugs and small molecules), with one or more of the following autoimmune inflammatory diseases: Atopic Dermatitis (AD), Rheumatoid Arthritis (RA), Psoriatic Arthritis (PsA), Ankylosing Spondylitis (AS), Ulcerative Colitis (UC) and any related comorbidities and/or risk factors; cross-indication projects are allowed.

Key Milestones

- Application submission deadline: April 27, 2023
- Anticipated decision notification date: June 30, 2023
- Anticipated project start date: From October 2023 onwards

Funding Range and Project Length

Individual projects requesting up to 50000 Eur will be considered. The estimated total available budget related to this RFP is 250000 Eur.

Project duration should not be more than 12 months.

I. Eligibility

Geographic Scope:

- Italy

Applicant Eligibility Criteria

- Only organizations are eligible to receive grants, not individuals or medical practice groups
- The institution and applicant must be based in the eligible country noted above
- Applicants must be affiliated with an Italian host institution
- The applicant (PI) must have a medical or postdoctoral degree (MD, PhD, or equivalent)
- Collaborations within institutions (e.g., between departments and/or inter-professional), as well as between different institutions/organizations, are encouraged. All partners must have a relevant role and the requesting organization must have a key role in the project

II. Requirements

Date RFP Issued

- March 7, 2023

Clinical Area

- Atopic Dermatitis (DA), Rheumatoid Arthritis (RA), Psoriatic Arthritis (PsA), Ankylosing Spondylitis (AS), Ulcerative Colitis (UC) in adult patients and any related comorbidities and/or risk factors
- Cross-indication projects are allowed

Specific Area of Interest for this RFP:

- It is our intent to support projects that focus on improving the quality of patient care, outcomes and prognosis of adult patients eligible for advanced therapies with one or more of the following autoimmune inflammatory diseases : Atopic Dermatitis (AD), Rheumatoid Arthritis (RA), Psoriatic Arthritis (PsA), Ankylosing Spondylitis (AS), Ulcerative Colitis (UC) and any related comorbidities and/or risk factors.
- The aim is to support the development of breakthrough and innovative solutions aimed at:
 - Encouraging the cross cooperation of specialists in the management of adult patients eligible for advanced therapies with one or more concomitant autoimmune inflammatory diseases, requiring a multi-disciplinary team approach to managing comorbidities and risk factors
 - Streamlining patient care pathways and simplifying diagnosis through multi-disciplinary team management
 - Improving the integration and standardization across care units for the multi-disciplinary team management of patients
 - Bridging specialists' knowledge gap on the appropriate multi-disciplinary approach to avoid delayed diagnoses
- Projects must encompass systematic and continuous actions that directly impact patient care and include measurable outcomes via methodologically rigorous methods
- Projects must include an overt description of systematic improvements
- Priority will be given to projects using innovative and high-impact solutions of collaboration, among rheumatologists / gastroenterologists / dermatologists and other specialists, to improve the management of patients and their treatment pathway while minimizing clinical risks or gaps. Proposals may also include the use of digital solutions

- Projects may include a single center or a collaboration among centers.
- It is expected that projects will be evidence-based and the proposed research/evaluation will follow generally accepted scientific principles. During review the intended outcome of the project is given careful consideration and, if appropriate based on the project goal, projects with the maximum likelihood to directly impact patient care will be given high priority
- It is not our intent to support clinical research projects. Projects evaluating therapeutic or diagnostic agents will not be considered. Projects must be non-drug related.

Target Audience

- Healthcare professionals involved in the management of adult patients with one or more of these autoimmune inflammatory diseases: Atopic Dermatitis (AD) and/or Alopecia Areata (AA), Rheumatoid Arthritis (RA), Psoriatic Arthritis (PsA), Ankylosing Spondylitis (AS), Ulcerative Colitis (UC)

Expected Approximate Monetary Range of Grant Applications:

- Individual projects requesting up to 50000 Eur will be considered. The estimated total available budget related to this RFP is 250000 Eur.
- The amount of the grant Pfizer will be prepared to fund for any project will depend upon the expert review panel's evaluation of the proposal and costs involved and will be stated clearly in the approval notification.

Key Dates:110

- RFP Release Date: 3/7/2023
- Full Proposal Due Date: 4/27/2023
 - Please note the deadline is 23:59 Eastern Standard Time (e.g., New York, GMT -5).
- Review of Full Proposals by ERP: May 2023
- Anticipated Full Proposal Notification Date: 6/30/2023
- Grants will be distributed following a fully executed agreement and submission of Final Protocol, documentation of IRB/IEC approval, regulatory approval (if applicable), exemption or waiver within 90 days from receipt of the Approval Letter. Pfizer considers these terms non-negotiable for grant projects.

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 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 Italy INNOVA-MIND.
- 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 GMGEMEA@pfizer.com, with the subject line “2023 I&I Italy INNOVA-MIND, March 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

- 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:

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

About Pfizer Global Medical Grants

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 expert 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.

Appendix

Specific RFP Submission Requirements

Applications will be accepted via the online portal listed in the [How to Submit](#) section. Project Proposals/Protocols should be single-spaced using Calibri 12-point font and 1-inch margins. Note there is a 15-page limit exclusive of 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 Euro (EUR).
- 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.