

Japan Society of Clinical Oncology and Pfizer Independent Medical Education RFP *Committing to Support Elderly Cancer Patients*

Competitive Grant Program – using Expert Review Panel



Overview

Under the Basic Plan to Promote Cancer Control Programs, a challenge is to implement corrections and improvements to establish a comprehensive medical care system that enables elderly cancer patients and their families to receive appropriate medical care and treatment support at their desired places. To improve medical care surrounding elderly cancer patients, the Japan Society of Clinical Oncology and Pfizer have decided to work together to make a public invitation for educational projects targeting healthcare professionals.



Geographic Scope

Japan



Project Types and Area of Interest

It is our intent to support projects for committing to support elderly cancer patients.

- An educational project necessary to develop healthcare professionals who can provide optimal cancer care to elderly cancer patients based on appropriate evaluation criteria
- An educational project for healthcare professionals to promote improvement of medical communication with elderly cancer patients and establishment of an environment for shared decision-making
- An educational project to comprehensively learn support required by elderly cancer patients or their families, etc., encouraging an enhancement of necessary knowledge and techniques
- An educational project necessary for team-based medical care supporting elderly cancer patients and multidisciplinary social collaboration
- An educational project necessary for team-based medical care supporting elderly cancer patients and multidisciplinary social collaboration



Key Milestones

- Application submission deadline: May 31, 2023
- Anticipated decision notification date: **July 31, 2023**
- Anticipated project start date: January 1, 2024



Funding Range and Project Length

- Ceiling for on project:
 - ◇ Large-scale project: up to 10,000,000 JPY
 - ◇ Small-scale project: up to 5,000,000 JPY
- January 1, 2024 – December 31, 2026 (up to 3 years)

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

I. Eligibility

Geographic Scope:

- Japan

Applicant Eligibility Criteria

- 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; 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.

II. Requirements

Date RFP Issued

- April 5, 2023

Clinical Area

- Oncology

Specific Area of Interest for this RFP:

- The Basic Plan to Promote Cancer Control Programs (the 4th term) aims to strengthen multidisciplinary collaboration and collaboration with regional medical institutions, etc. to ensure that elderly cancer patients and their families can receive appropriate medical care at their desired places and appropriate assistance to support their recuperation. As with non-elderly patients, a challenge is to correct and improve the comprehensive medical system. #1 In choosing treatment for elderly patients with cancer, not only general conditions and comorbidities but also cognitive functions need to be considered, and as a result, standard of care may not be indicated in some cases. A challenge is that such judgment is left to the discretion of physicians; measures for the standard treatment for elderly cancer patients and decision-making of cancer patients are being promoted. #1,2 Various considerations for information disparities are needed for elderly cancer patients, such as presence of multiple chronic diseases, staying in nursing homes, etc., increasing family burdens, and inability to use the Internet (digital devices). Measures are needed for regional cooperation, consultation support system, and utilization of digital technologies so that they can receive more appropriate support for cancer care and recuperation. #1,3,4

Based on the above background, this public invitation is for educational projects to support elderly cancer patients.

It is not our intent to support clinical research projects. Projects evaluating the efficacy of therapeutic or diagnostic agents will not be considered.

Target Audience

- Healthcare professionals mainly involved in cancer treatment and care (e.g. institutions involved in medical care, nursing care, and welfare)

Expected Approximate Monetary Range of Grant Applications:

- Ceiling for on project:
 - ✧ Large-scale project: up to 10,000,000 JPY
 - ✧ Small-scale project: up to 5,000,000 JPY
- 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:

- RFP Release Date: 4/5/2023
- LOI Due Date: 5/31/2023 Time (e.g., New York, GMT -5).
- LOI Review of applications by ERP: July 2023
- Full Proposal Due Date: August 2023
 - *Only accepted LOIs will be invited to submit full proposals
- Full Proposal Review of applications by ERP: August 2023
- Anticipated Grant Award Notification Date: September 2023
- Grants will be distributed following a fully executed agreement.
- Anticipated Project Start and End Dates: 1/1/2024 to 12/31/2025

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/loi and sign in. First-time users should click "Create your password"
- Click the "Start a New LOI" button.
- In the application:
 - For the question "What type of request are you submitting?" select Response to a Request for Proposal (RFP)
 - For the question "Are you replying to a Request for Proposal (RFP) as part of the Competitive Grant Program?" select Yes
- Select the following Competitive Grant Program Name: **"2023 ONC JP: Committing to Support Elderly Cancer Patients"**
 - Select the following Primary Area of Interest: **"Oncology-Other"**
- Requirements for submission:
 - Complete all required sections of the online application and upload your project proposal (see Appendix) in the General RFP 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 MEG-J office (meg.japan@pfizer.com), with the subject line "Committing to Support Elderly Cancer Patients."

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.
- The selected institutions (organizations) are to present the outlines of the projects at the 62nd Annual Meeting of JSCO in 2024. The final outcomes of the projects are to be presented at a subsequent annual meeting of JSCO.

References

- #1: The 4th-term Basic Plan to Promote Cancer Control Programs (Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare, Basic Plan to Promote Cancer Control Programs)
- #2: Clinical practice guideline for the elderly in cancer 2022 (Health and Labour Sciences Research, Comprehensive Research Project for the Promotion of Cancer Control)
- #3: Proposal for the 4th-term Basic Plan to Promote Cancer Control Programs from the Review Committee on How to live with Cancers (The 84th Cancer Control Promotion Council Meeting)
- #4: White Paper on Information and Communications in Japan 2021 (Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications)

About Japan Society of Clinical Oncology and Pfizer Global Medical Grants

Japan Society of Clinical Oncology (JSCO) has signed a partnership agreement with Pfizer Japan Inc. (Pfizer) to implement innovative education and a transformation strategy.

The aims of JSCO are to facilitate communication, collaboration and promotion of research concerning cancer prevention, diagnosis and treatment and play an instrumental role in the progress and dissemination of cancer care, thereby contributing to academic (scientific) culture advancements and human well-being.

Pfizer aims to "reduce healthcare disparities" as one of the efforts required to achieve the corporate purpose. As Pfizer also promotes high-quality education and a change management project that would enable healthcare professionals to improve patient outcomes through the practice of appropriate standard treatments, the company has set the same goal as JSCO.

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.

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.

Appendix

General RFP Submission Requirements

Applications will be accepted via the online portal listed in the [How to Submit](#) section. 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. When uploading your Full Proposal please ensure it addresses the following sections:

Goals and Objectives

- Briefly state the overall goal of the project.
- List the objectives you plan to meet with your project, in terms of learning and expected outcomes.

Needs Assessment for the Project

- Include a description of your organization's needs assessment for this proposed project which may include a quantitative baseline data summary, initial metrics, 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.

Target Audience

- Describe the primary audience(s) targeted for this project. 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, the educational approach, and the way the planned methods address the established need.

Innovation

- Explain what measures you have taken to assure that this project 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.

Evaluation and Outcomes

- In terms of the metrics used for the needs assessment, describe how your organization will determine if the gap was addressed for the target group. Identify the sources of data your organization anticipates using to make the determination. Describe how your organization is expected to collect and analyze the data. Explain the method used to control for other factors outside this project (e.g., use of a control group or comparison with baseline data). Quantify the amount of change expected from this project in terms the target audience. Describe how your organization will determine if the target audience was fully engaged in the project.

Dissemination Plan

- 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.

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

- Please include a budget narrative that describes in greater detail the line items specified in the budget submitted within the application
- While estimating your budget please keep the following items in mind:
 - Independent Medical Education Grants awarded by GMG cannot be used to purchase therapeutic assets (prescription or non-prescription).
 - Overhead rates of up to 28% of the total proposed project budget may be supported by Pfizer. Please [click here](#) for details.