



Pfizer Quality Improvement RFP

Optimizing COVID-19 Treatment Strategies in Elderly Vulnerable Populations in Canada

Competitive Grant Program –Pfizer Internal Review Process

Overview

It is our intent to support Quality Improvement (QI) initiatives that focus on improving and/or optimizing COVID-19 treatment strategies in elderly vulnerable populations in Canada (e.g., in private and/or public long-term care centers, nursing homes, etc.), where COVID-19 could have severe outcomes and viral outbreaks are more common. Particular consideration will be given to projects intended to improve COVID-19 treatment in underrepresented populations such as new immigrants, visible minorities, older patients in rural and remote areas, First Nations, Métis, Inuit, or other underrepresented communities.

Geographic Scope

Canada

Project Types and Area of Interest

Potential applicants are encouraged to utilize QI programs to optimize COVID-19 treatment implementation strategies in elderly vulnerable populations in areas including, but not limited to:

- Clinical practice to improve COVID-19 treatment outcomes such as drug-drug interactions management, early diagnosis, early treatment initiation strategies, and disease awareness
- Novel clinical pathways to optimize treatment uptake to prevent the risk of complications from COVID-19

Key Milestones

- Application submission deadline: **August 23, 2023**
- Anticipated decision notification date: **October 3, 2023**
- Anticipated project start date: **November 15, 2023**

Funding Range and Project Length

Individual projects requesting up to \$75,000 CAD will be considered. The estimated total available budget related to this RFP is \$225,000 CAD. Larger grant amounts may be considered depending on the project scope and methodology. Project length will be a maximum of 18 months.

I. Eligibility

Geographic Scope:

- Canada

Applicant Eligibility Criteria

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

II. Requirements

Date RFP Issued

- June 29, 2023

Clinical Area

- COVID-19

General Area of Interest for this RFP:

It is our intent to support QI initiatives that focus on improving and/or optimizing COVID-19 treatment practice and uptake in elderly vulnerable populations in areas including, but not limited to:

- Clinical practice to improve COVID-19 treatment outcomes and uptake such as:
 - Supporting and/or training of HCPs on disease awareness/value of preventing severe outcomes from COVID-19
 - Optimizing and streamlining implementation of COVID-19 treatment strategies: early diagnosis and treatment initiation
 - Increasing knowledge on drug-drug interactions management
 - Addressing treatment hesitancy/ disease awareness/ education in vulnerable patients
- Novel clinical pathways to optimize COVID-19 treatment outcomes by improving treatment access for elderly vulnerable populations

Note: Particular consideration will be given to projects intended to improve care and/or access to treatment for underrepresented populations such as new immigrants, visual minorities, First Nations, Métis, Inuit, or other underrepresented communities.

We are seeking to support Quality Improvement initiatives. 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

Medical, nursing, and allied health professionals from healthcare institutions (large and small), professional associations and medical societies, and other entities with a mission related to healthcare professional education and/or healthcare improvement.

Expected Approximate Monetary Range of Grant Applications:

- Individual projects requesting up to \$75,000 CAD will be considered. The estimated total available budget related to this RFP is \$225,000 CAD. Larger grant amounts may be considered depending on the project scope and methodology.
- Award amounts include direct costs, institutional overhead costs (capped at 28% per Pfizer policy), and indirect costs.

Key Dates:

- RFP release date: 6/29/2023
- Grant Application due date: 8/23/2023
Please note the deadline is 23:59 Eastern Standard Time (e.g., New York, GMT -5).
- Anticipated Grant Award Notification Date: 10/3/2023
- Grants will be distributed following a fully executed agreement.
- Anticipated Project Start and End Dates: 11/15/2023 to 4/1/2025

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/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 VAC CAN Optimizing COVID-19 Treatment QI
 - Select the following Primary Area of Interest: Antiviral – COVID-19
- 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, Derek Warnick (derek.warnick@pfizer.com), with the subject line “2023 VAC CAN Optimizing COVID-19 Treatment QI.”
- Please click [here](#) to view Frequently Asked Questions regarding the Competitive Grant Program

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.

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 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

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.