

Pfizer Quality Improvement RFP

Accord for a Healthier World: Antimicrobial Resistance Testing & Stewardship to Improve Hospitalized Patients' Health Outcomes

Competitive Grant Program –Pfizer Internal Review Process



Overview

This competitive program seeks to support measurable system-level improvements focused on antimicrobial resistance (AMR) in healthcare settings.



Geographic Scope

Senegal, Malawi, Rwanda.



Project Types and Area of Interest

Projects that will be considered for Pfizer support will:

- Focus on system-level changes with measurable improvement, around antimicrobial resistance (AMR) in healthcare settings with a focus on building capacity or performing in-hospital laboratory testing and integrating into the associated institutional or national antimicrobial stewardship programs.
- Adhere to local laws and regulations regarding antimicrobial therapy prescribing, use, and treatment practices.
- Include a comprehensive monitoring and evaluation scheme that specifically details endpoints for program outcomes.
- Reference to a country's AMR Plan and the status as reported to the World Health Organisation would be useful particularly as it relates to laboratory testing, laboratory capacity, and training activities.
- Sustainability of the initiative must be discussed in the proposal.



Key Milestones

- Application submission deadline: August 14, 2023
- Anticipated decision notification date: September 2023
- Anticipated project start date: from November 2023, for a duration of 1 year.



Funding Range and Project Length

- Individual projects requesting up to \$100,000 will be considered. The estimated total available budget related to this RFP is \$500,000.

I. Eligibility

Geographic Scope:

- Senegal, Malawi, Rwanda.

Applicant Eligibility Criteria

- Projects in resource limited settings will be given higher priority and the nature of these settings should be clearly outlined.
- 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.
- The applicant must be the Project Lead/Principal Investigator (PI) or an authorized designee of such individual (e.g., Project Lead/PI's grant/research coordinator).
- The Project Lead/PI must be an employee or independent contractor of the requesting organization.
- Requesting organization must be legally able to receive award funding directly from Pfizer Inc. We strongly recommend that applicants confirm this with their organization or institution prior to submitting an application. Grants awarded to organizations that are subsequently found to be unable to accept funding directly from Pfizer Inc. may be subject to rescission.

II. Requirements

Date RFP Issued

- **July 17, 2023**

Clinical Area

- Infectious Diseases – Bacterial

General Area of Interest for this RFP:

In 2022, Pfizer launched Accord, an Accord for a Healthier World, a first-of-its-kind initiative to enable sustained, equitable access to high-quality, safe and effective medicines and vaccines with the potential to improve the health of 1.2 billion people living in lower-income countries around the world. Rwanda, Ghana, Malawi, Senegal are the first countries to commit to join the Accord.

[An Accord for a Healthier World | Pfizer](#)

Projects that will be considered for Pfizer support will focus on system-level changes with measurable improvement, around antimicrobial resistance (AMR) in healthcare settings with a focus on building capacity or performing in-hospital laboratory testing and integrating into the associated institutional or national antimicrobial stewardship programs.

- Adhere to local laws and regulations regarding antimicrobial therapy prescribing, use, and treatment practices.

- Include a comprehensive monitoring and evaluation scheme that specifically details endpoints for program outcomes. All programs proposed must consider how laboratory testing for resistance relate to antimicrobial stewardship programs and once enacted, how they will change therapy consumption patterns and what effect this will have on patient health outcomes. Programs should not compromise patient safety and positive health outcomes to reach unfounded targets.
- Reference to a country's AMR Plan and the status as reported to the World Health Organisation would be useful particularly as it relates to laboratory testing, laboratory capacity and training activities.
- Sustainability of the initiative must be discussed in the proposal.

Proposals that describe how its programmatic intervention can be expanded to other settings or regions to improve patient health outcomes are encouraged.

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

- Hospitals, academic medical centers, ambulatory settings and other healthcare facilities.

Expected Approximate Monetary Range of Grant Applications:

- Individual projects requesting up to \$100,000 will be considered. The estimated total available budget related to this RFP is \$500,000.
- Award amounts include direct costs, institutional overhead costs (capped at 28% per Pfizer policy), and indirect costs.

Key Dates:

- RFP release date: **July 17, 2023**
- Grant Application due date: **August 14, 2023**
Please note the deadline is 23:59 Eastern Standard Time (e.g., New York, GMT -5).
- Anticipated Grant Award Notification Date: **September 2023**
- Grants will be distributed following a fully executed agreement.
- Anticipated Project Start and End Dates: **from November 2023, for a duration of 1 year.**

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 HBU MERA Accord AMR QI**
- Select the following Primary Area of Interest: **Antimicrobial Stewardship**
- 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, **Camille Jimenez** (Camille.jimenez@pfizer.com), with the subject line “2023 Accord MERA AMR Testing and Stewardship to Improve Hospitalized Patients’ Health Outcomes QI-July 17, 2023.”
- 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.
- Under Pfizer's competitive grant program, modifications to grant agreements will not be reviewed unless a genuine conflict exists as between applicable law and the terms of the relevant grant agreement. Applicant is encouraged to share the core terms with counsel for approval prior to submitting an application.
- Except where prohibited by applicable law and, in any case, subject to review by Pfizer Legal, payment of grant funding may only be paid to the grantee organization.
- RFP is supported by Pfizer Inc. and, if approved, payment will be sent from the United States.

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

- [An Accord for a Healthier World | Pfizer](#)

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 U.S. dollars (USD).
- 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.