



# Japanese Society of Clinical Oncology and Pfizer

## Quality Improvement RFP

### *Projects of Equalization of Cancer Information*

Competitive Grant Program – using Expert Review Panel



#### Overview

Basic Plan to Promote Cancer Control Programs is "to promote cancer control measures that leave no one behind and aim to overcome cancers with all citizens." In the plan, it is described that the spread of information without scientific evidence is mentioned as a problem and also it is important to create an environment where cancer patients and their families can obtain correct information when they need and make appropriate choices. the Japan Society of Clinical Oncology, in collaboration with Pfizer, is inviting healthcare professionals to apply for grant projects of healthcare professionals who set up an environment where non-healthcare professionals can access and use correct information at an appropriate timing.



#### Geographic Scope/Location of Project

Japan



#### Project Types and Area of Interest

This RFP with the theme of "equalization of cancer information" will support education projects and social implementation projects to establish an information infrastructure from the patient's perspective using digital technologies.



#### Key Milestones

- Application submission deadline: June 25, 2025
- Anticipated decision notification date: October 31, 2025
- Anticipated project start date: January 1, 2026



#### Funding Range and Project Length

- Individual projects requesting up to 5,000,000 JPY will be considered, but it is desirable to draft a project with the scale of 2,000,000 JPY to 3,000,000 JPY. (Please establish a budget considering the contents of the project and the implementation period.)
- Anticipated Projects Start and End Dates: January 2026 - December 2028

## I. Eligibility

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### Geographic Scope/Location of Project:

- 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 organizations; government agencies; and other entities with a mission related to healthcare improvement.
- Only organizations are eligible to receive grants, not individuals or medical practice groups (i.e., an independent group of physicians not affiliated with a hospital, academic institution, or professional society).
- Collaborations within institutions (e.g., between departments and/or inter-professional), as well as between different institutions / organizations / associations, are encouraged. Please note all partners 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 contractor of the requesting organization.
- Requesting organization must be legally able to receive award funding directly from Pfizer International LLC. 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 International LLC may be subject to rescission.

## II. Requirements

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### Date RFP Issued

- April 11, 2025

### Clinical Area

- Oncology

### Specific Area of Interest for this RFP:

- The goal of the 4th Basic Plan to Promote Cancer Control Programs is "to promote cancer control measures that leave no one behind and aim to overcome cancers with all citizens." In the plan, it is described that the spread of information without scientific evidence is mentioned as a problem and also it is important to create an environment where cancer patients and their families can obtain correct information when they need and make appropriate choices.<sup>1)2)</sup>

Based on this background, this public invitation with the theme of "equalization of cancer information" will support education projects and social implementation projects of healthcare professionals who set up an environment where non-healthcare professionals can access and use correct information at an appropriate timing (in particular, establishing an information infrastructure from the patient's perspective using digital technologies).

Specifically, this Request for Proposals aims to attract the following types of projects.

#### [Educational projects]

- A project to promote decision-making support by providing cancer patients and their families with correct knowledge on treatment selection and management of adverse reactions
- A project to clarify issues in cancer information and improve the implementation rate of standard treatment through the use of real-world data (RWD), etc.

#### [Social implementation project]

- A project to establish an information infrastructure using digital technology so that cancer patients and their families can access and use correct information at an appropriate timing
- A project to socially implement digital technologies such as mobile devices and mobile applications for healthcare professionals in order to improve the quality of medical care such as reducing the burden of information acquisition of patients and their families, etc. and reducing the burden on healthcare professionals.

**Attention:** In all proposals, it will be essential to establish an outcome measure for the project.

### Target Audience

- Healthcare professionals mainly involved in cancer treatment and care (e.g. institutions involved in medical care, nursing care, and welfare)
- It is acceptable to include non-healthcare professionals like patients as part of the target audience

### Expected Approximate Monetary Range of Grant Applications:

- Individual projects requesting up to 5,000,000 JPY will be considered, but it is desirable to draft a project with the scale of 2,000,000 JPY to 3,000,000 JPY. (Please establish a budget considering the contents of the project and the implementation period.)
- Award amounts include direct costs, institutional overhead costs (capped at 28% per Pfizer policy), and indirect costs.
- 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 grant agreement.

### Key Dates:

- RFP Release Date: April 11, 2025
- Due Date: June 25, 2025
- Anticipated Full Proposal Notification Date: October 31, 2025
- Anticipated Projects Start and End Dates: January 2026 - December 2028
- 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.

### 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".
- Click the "Start a New Quality Improvement Application" button.
- In the application:
  - Select the following Competitive Grant Program Name: 2025 ONC JP JSCO Projects of Equalization of Cancer Information QI

- Select the following Primary Area of Interest: Oncology – General/Non-specific/Other - QI
- 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, Akihiro Kamina (meg.japan@pfizer.com), with the subject line “2025 ONC JP JSCO Equalization of Cancer Information QI.”

### 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.
- This RFP is supported by Pfizer and, if approved, payment will be sent from the United States.

### 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.

### Reference

1. Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare of Japan: [The 4<sup>th</sup> Cancer Control Act](#). March 28, 2023
2. Cancer Control Research: [Discussion Paper](#). November 5, 2024

### About Japanese Society of Clinical Oncology and Pfizer Global Medical Grants & Partnerships

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 & Partnerships (GMGP) 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 GMGP 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

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### 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. On the cover page of your application, specify whether your project is an "educational project" or a "social implementation project." Note there is a 10-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 Japanese YEN (JPY).
- While estimating your budget please keep the following items in mind:
  - General organizational running costs such as legal fees, insurance, heating, and lighting etc. should be included in an Institutional Overhead (if required). These costs are not specific to a grant request and therefore, should not appear as line items in budgets. However, costs that are specific to the study (e.g., some countries require insurance to be taken out on a per-study basis for clinical research) would be acceptable to be included as line items.
    - The inclusion of overhead costs cannot cause the amount requested to exceed the budget limit set forth in the RFP.
  - 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.
  - 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.