Pfizer Research Grant Request for Proposals

Impact of Rapid Diagnostic Tests (RDTs) on Treatment Pattern and Outcomes in Patients with Carbapenem-Resistant (CR) Pathogens

Competitive Grant Program –Pfizer Internal Review Process

Overview

This competitive program is designed to evaluate potential differences with the application of Rapid Diagnosis Tests (RDTs) on treatment pattern and clinical outcomes in patients with carbapenem-resistant organisms (CR) pathogens, with a focus on departments, such as Intensive Care Unit (ICU), respiratory, infectious disease, hematology, solid organ transplantation (SOT) etc.

Geographic Scope/Location of Project

Mainland China

Project Types and Area of Interest

Research focuses on following areas concerning patients with CR pathogens:

- To describe the RDTs used during the study and patients' baseline characteristics.
- To compare the mean time from specimen receipt to test results and receipt of appropriate antimicrobial therapy.
- To compare the percentage of patients receiving appropriate antimicrobial therapy within 24-48h.
- To describe the treatment pattern (drug, duration, changes in empiric therapy etc) based on RDTs and routine culture.
- To describe clinical outcomes, including ICU admission, hospital length of stay (LoS), clinical cure rate, 30-day all-cause mortality , microbiological result etc.
- To explore the association between RDT utilization and improved clinical outcomes.

Key Milestones

- Application submission deadline: **December 31, 2025**
- Anticipated decision notification date: **April 9, 2026**
- Anticipated project start date: **On or after June 9, 2026**

Funding Range and Project Length

- Individual projects requesting up to $42,000 will be considered. The estimated total available budget related to this RFP is $350,000.
- Project length is 12 – 36 months.

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I. Eligibility

Geographic Scope/Location of Project/Study:

- Mainland China

Applicant Eligibility Criteria

- The institution and Principal Investigator (PI) must be based in Mainland China noted above.
- 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).
- 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 PI must have a medical or postdoctoral degree (MD, PhD, or equivalent), or a degree in Pharmacy.
- The applicant must be the PI or an authorized designee of such individual (e.g., PI's research coordinator).
- The PI must be an employee or contractor of the requesting organization.
- Requesting organization must be legally able to receive award funding directly from Pfizer Investment Co., Ltd. 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 Investment Co., Ltd may be subject to rescission.

II. Requirements

Date RFP Issued

- October 10, 2025

Clinical Area

- *Carbapenem-Resistant Enterobacterales* (CRE), *Carbapenem-Resistant Pseudomonas aeruginosa* (CRPA) and *Carbapenem-Resistant Acinetobacter baumannii* (CRAB) patients

General Area of Interest for this RFP:

Research focuses on the following areas related to Carbapenem-resistant Organisms (CRO) - CRE, CRPA and CRAB patients within relevant departments, such as ICU, respiratory, infectious disease, hematology, solid organ transplantation (SOT) etc. The areas may include:

- To describe the RDTs used on different specimens during the study and patients' baseline characteristics between RDTs and routine culture-based cohorts among CRE, CRPA and CRAB patients.
- To compare the mean time from specimen receipt to test results and receipt of appropriate antimicrobial therapy between RDTs and routine culture-based cohorts among CRE, CRPA and CRAB patients.
- To compare the percentage of patients receiving appropriate antimicrobial therapy within 24-48h between RDTs and routine culture-based cohorts among CRE, CRPA and CRAB patients.
- To describe the treatment pattern (such as drug, duration, changes in empiric therapy, use of combination therapy vs monotherapy, impact on the use of novel BL/BL etc) based on RDTs and routine culture among CRE, CRPA and CRAB patients.

- To describe clinical outcomes, including ICU admission, hospital LoS, clinical cure rate, 30-day all-cause mortality and microbiological result based on RDTs and routine culture among CRE, CRPA and CRAB patients.
- To explore the association between RDTs utilization and improved clinical outcomes, including ICU admission, hospital LoS, clinical cure rate, 30-day all-cause mortality, microbiological result etc among CRE, CRPA and CRAB patients.

Rapid diagnostic tests (RDTs) refer to a group of diagnostics categorized by performance characteristics rather than the specific analyte or test platform. Such assays have relatively short performance times, provide results to inform clinical decision making, and enable management at the point-of-care (POC). RDTs are available in a variety of test formats and platforms and for various detection targets.

RDTs in this competitive program specifically refer to below techniques which can detect carbapenemases:

- Phenotypic testing, including Lateral Flow Antigen (LFA) tests, MALDI-TOF etc
- Genotype testing, including PCR based assays, NGS based assays etc.

Expected Approximate Monetary Range of Grant Applications:

- Individual projects requesting up to $42,000 will be considered. The estimated total available budget related to this RFP is $350,000.
- Award amounts include direct costs, institutional overhead costs (capped at 28% per Pfizer policy), and indirect costs.
- Note: grant requests for drug/compound are not in scope of this RFP.

Key Dates:

- RFP release date: **October 10, 2025**
- Grant Application due date: **December 31, 2025**

  Please note the deadline is 23:59 Eastern Standard Time (e.g., New York, GMT -5).
- Anticipated Grant Award Notification Date: **April 9, 2026**
- 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.
- Anticipated Project Start and End Dates: **June 9, 2026** to **June 9, 2029**

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/Research 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 Research Grant Application" button.
- In the application:
  - For the question “Competitive Grant?” select **Yes**
  - Select the following Competitive Grant Program Name: **2025 I&I CN Rapid Diagnostic Tests RES**
- Select the following Primary Area of Interest: **Infectious Disease - Bacterial- RES**

- Requirements for submission:

  Complete all required sections of the online application and upload your project proposal (see Appendix) in the Proposal/Protocol 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, Juan Liu (GMGChina@pfizer.com), with the subject line "2025 CN Impact of RDTs on Treatment Pattern and Outcomes in Patients with CR Pathogens -October 10, 2025."
  - 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.

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 Grants

Pfizer 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 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 internal Pfizer review process to make final grant decisions. Organizations are invited to submit an application addressing the research gaps as outlined in the specific RFP.

For all Investigator Sponsored Research (ISRs) and general research grants, the grant requester (and ultimately the grantee) is responsible for the design, implementation, sponsorship, and conduct of the independent initiative supported by the grant, including compliance with any regulatory requirements. Pfizer must not be involved in any aspect of study protocol or project development, nor the conduct or monitoring of the research program. An ISR grant request cannot be submitted for a study that has already commenced and was not originally supported by Pfizer.

Appendix

General 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

- Provide the main goal of the study and the study population (if applicable). Provide a detailed definition that is directly linked to the primary objective.

Assessment of Need for the Project

- This should reflect your study rationale. Provide a brief description of the medical/scientific question and the rationale of how this trial or study addresses the question.

Target Audience

- Describe the primary audience(s) targeted for this project. For Investigator Sponsored Clinical Trials, please specify the age, gender and other demographic information for trial population.
- 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 concisely the research design and methods for achieving the stated goals. For a clinical interventional study, include inclusion/exclusion criteria, treatment plan and statistical plan.

Innovation

- Explain what measures you have taken to assure that this project idea is original and does not duplicate other projects. 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

- Specify type and frequency of safety, efficacy, and/or outcome measures. Also indicate the method(s) used to assess measures.
- Provide a publication plan describing intended submission of abstracts to (a) congress(es) or intended submission of (a) publication(s) to peer-reviewed journals.

Anticipated Project Timeline

- Provide an anticipated timeline for your project including project start/end dates.
    - An ISR grant request cannot be submitted for a study that has already commenced and was not originally supported by Pfizer.

Additional Information

- If there is any additional information you feel Pfizer should be aware of concerning the importance of this project, please summarize here.
- Early-career applicants: Letter(s) of support from mentor(s) and collaborators describing how the award will advance the applicant's career.

Organization Detail

- This information is used to assess the capability of the organizational resources available to perform the effort proposed. Identify the facilities to be used [laboratory, animal, clinical and “other”]. If appropriate, indicate their capacities, pertinent capabilities, relative proximity and extent of availability to the project.

Budget Detail

- The budget amount requested must be in Chinese Yuan (CNY).
- 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 these 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 GMGP 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.