Pfizer Research Grant Request for Proposals

Competitive Grant Program – Pfizer Internal Review Process

Optimizing Antimicrobial Stewardship (AMS) Interventions and Outcomes in Clinical Outcomes, Optimal Use and Resource Utilization

Overview

This competitive program aims to generate localized real-world data to optimize the implementation of AMS interventions focused on Gram-negative bacterial and fungal infection through technological empowerment and to enhance AMS outcomes systematically via tailored AMS interventions under the antibiotic appropriate use policy, including volume-based procurement (VBP), Diagnosis-Related Groups (DRG) and Diagnosis-Intervention Packet (DIP), etc. [1-2]

Geographic Scope

Mainland China

Project Types and Area of Interest

This research focuses on optimizing both AMS implementation and outcomes. It aims to enhance AMS interventions through the use of validated Clinical Decision Support Systems (CDSS) and AI-powered prescription prediction tools, thereby improving the appropriate use of antibiotics and resource utilization. Additionally, the study seeks to use Chinese guidelines as a standard to identify gaps in clinical guidelines, enhance adherence, and optimize patient outcomes. Regarding AMS outcome optimization, the research will evaluate how tailored interventions by AMS teams influence optimal antibiotic use and improve resource utilization and clinical outcomes within the framework of the antibiotic appropriate use policy.

Key Milestones

Submission Deadline	Anticipated Grant Award Notification	Anticipated Project Start Date/Duration
31 Mar 2026	30 Jun 2026	30 Sep 2026

Funding Range and Project Length

Individual projects requesting up to $35,000 will be considered. The estimated total available budget related to this RFP is $120,000.

Maximum project length is 2 years, with projects to be completed no later than September 2028. Priority will be given to strong proposals that will be completed in shorter time frame.

I. Eligibility

Geographic Scope:

- 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), an advanced nursing degree (BSN with a MS/PhD), or a degree in Pharmacy, Physiotherapy, or Social Work.
- 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

Primary Area of Interest:

- Antimicrobial stewardship in Hematology, Respiratory Intensive Care Unit (RICU), Intensive Care Unit (ICU), and Clinical Pharmacology Settings

General Area of Interest for this RFP:

- This research focuses on optimizing AMS implementation and outcomes across Hematology, Respiratory, ICU, and Clinical Pharmacology settings, with an emphasis on:
  - **AMS Implementation Optimization**
    - Explore the impact of validated Clinical Decision Support Systems (CDSS) on appropriateness of antibiotic selection and resource utilization.
    - Examine the impact of validated AI-powered prescription appropriate prediction tools to strengthen the appropriate use of antibiotics for patients with Multidrug-Resistant Organism (MDRO) risk.
    - Investigate the effect of using Chinese guidelines as the standard to identify and address gaps in clinical guidelines on improving adherence and optimizing patient outcomes.
  - **AMS Outcome Optimization**
    - Evaluate how tailored AMS interventions by AMS team influence the appropriate use of antibiotics under the antibiotic appropriate use policy, including volume-based procurement (VBP), Diagnosis-Related Groups (DRG) and Diagnosis-Intervention Packet (DIP), etc.
    - Assess the effect of tailored AMS interventions by AMS team on optimizing resource utilization and clinical outcomes under the antibiotic appropriate use policy, including volume-based procurement (VBP), Diagnosis-Related Groups (DRG) and Diagnosis-Intervention Packet (DIP), etc.

- **Notes:**
  - The definition of 'validated' refers to systems that have undergone rigorous validation processes, which may include regulatory approval, peer-reviewed publication or validation studies, demonstrated accuracy, reliability and clinical utility in real world settings, and other relevant criteria.
  - Applicants must provide evidence of CDSS validation as part of their proposal, including references to published validation studies, regulatory approval, or other supporting materials. Only proposals utilizing CDSS that meet this validation standards will be considered eligible for funding.
  - For AMS resource utilization optimization, applicants should describe how their proposed AMS interventions will be evaluated or optimized within the DRG/DIP frameworks, including the use of relevant metrics such as antimicrobial use density (AUD), length of stay (LOS), readmission rate, and total antimicrobial expenditure, as defined by DRG/DIP policies.
- **For the research endpoints, you can use AMS indicators from the "Three Networks Annual" as the standard and reference. The following dimensions are provided for your reference, but are not limited to the indicators listed below:**
  - Appropriate drug use evaluation: appropriate drug use rate, guideline adherence, etc.
  - Clinical outcomes: clinical response, microbial clearance rate, mortality rate, adverse events (AEs), etc.
  - Resource outcomes: antimicrobial use density (AUD), length of stay (LOS), readmission rate, total antimicrobial expenditure, etc.

Expected Approximate Monetary Range of Grant Applications

IMPORTANT: 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.

- Individual projects requesting up to $35,000 will be considered. The estimated total available budget related to this RFP is $120,000.
- Award amounts include direct costs, institutional overhead costs (capped at 28% per Pfizer policy), and indirect costs.

Key Dates:

IMPORTANT: Be advised applications submitted after the due date will not be reviewed.

*Please note the deadline is 23:59 Eastern Standard Time (e.g., New York, GMT -5)

How to Submit:

IMPORTANT: 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.
  - Note: there are individual portals for each grant application type. Please be sure to use the URL above.
  - First-time users should click "Create your password".
- Click the "**Start A New Research Grant Application**" button.
- Requirements for submission:
  - Complete all required sections of the online application
  - **IMPORTANT**: Upload proposal (see Appendix) in the Proposal/Protocol field.
- In the application:
  - For the question "**Competitive Grant**?" select "**Yes**"
  - Select the following Primary Area of Interest: **Infectious Disease - Antimicrobial Stewardship - RES**
  - Select the following Competitive Grant Program Name: **2026 I&I CN Optimizing AMS Interventions and Outcomes RES**

Questions:

- If you encounter any technical difficulties with the website, please click here or the "Technical Questions" link at the bottom of the page in cybergrants.
- Please click here to view "Frequently Asked Questions" regarding the Competitive Grant Program.
- 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 "2026 I&I CN Optimizing AMS Interventions and Outcomes RES - Jan 15, 2026".

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.

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.

Reference:

1. Volume-Based Procurement (VBP):
   https://www.gov.cn/zhengce/zhengceku/2019-09/30/content_5456439.htm
2. Diagnosis-Related Groups (DRG) and Diagnosis-Intervention Packet (DIP):
   https://www.gov.cn/zhengce/zhengceku/2021-11/28/content_5653858.htm

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

IMPORTANT: 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.

Required Documents

- Project Plan or Proposal
- Initial Study Protocol