

Independent Grants for Learning & Change (IGLC)

Call for Grant Applications (CGA)

Improving Recognition of Early Signs and Symptoms of Osteoarthritis

I. Background

The mission of Pfizer Independent Grants for Learning & Change (IGL&C) is to partner with the global healthcare community to improve patient outcomes in areas of mutual interest through support of measurable learning and change strategies. "Independent" means that the projects funded by Pfizer are the full responsibility of the recipient organization. Pfizer has no influence over any aspect of the projects and only asks for reports about the results and the impact of the projects in order to share them publicly.

Through this CGA we encourage organizations to submit grant requests that, if funded, will support education in a specific disease state, therapeutic area, or broader area of educational need. Educational activities should not be focused on products specific to Pfizer.

When a CGA is issued, it is posted on the IGL&C website (www.cybergrants.com/pfizer/knowledge) in the [Grants Process section](#) and is sent via e-mail to all registered users in our grants system. Some CGAs may also be posted on the websites of other relevant organizations.

II. Eligibility

Geographic Scope:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> United States Only
Applicant Eligibility Criteria:	<p>The following may apply: medical, physical therapy, chiropractic, 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.</p> <p>More information on organizations eligible to apply directly for a grant can be found at http://www.pfizer.com/files/IGLC_OrganizationEligibility_effJuly2015.pdf.</p> <p>Collaborations within institutions (e.g., between departments and/or inter-professional), as well as between different institutions/organizations/associations, are encouraged. All partners must have a relevant role, and the requesting organization must have a leadership role.</p>

III. Requirements

Date CGA Issued:	June 6, 2018
Clinical Area:	Improving recognition of the early signs and symptoms of osteoarthritis

Specific Area of Interest for this CGA:

New research has presented an opportunity to improve earlier diagnosis of osteoarthritis (OA) of the knee and thus earlier intervention, potentially leading to improved outcomes (i.e. reduced falls) for OA sufferers. It is our intent to support projects that focus on developing a continuing medical education program focused on improving recognition of OA symptoms prior to the onset of pain and stiffness.

Introduction

The 2010 CDC publication, “A National Public Health Agenda for Osteoarthritis”, calls for national policy goals and objectives that would serve to prevent the onset of OA or progression of disease, and that promote evidence-based public health interventions.¹ New research provides information that may assist in earlier diagnosis of knee OA and thus an opportunity for earlier intervention and lifestyle modifications, an objective of the CDC.²

Diagnosing Osteoarthritis

Osteoarthritis of the knee is typically diagnosed by a physician through the assessment of collective signs/symptoms of the presenting patient using patient history (i.e. age, history of knee pain), physical examination, and radiographic or laboratory findings.³

However, previous research shows that through the administration of a simple questionnaire, pharmacists were able to appropriately identify knee OA in >80% of patients with knee pain who had undiagnosed OA.⁴ A more recent study was the first to find an association between self-reported crepitus and incident symptomatic knee OA, prior to the onset of pain:²

- Investigators followed 3,495 participants without preexisting symptomatic OA or arthroplasty for up to 48 months to assess the relationship between subjective knee crepitus and symptomatic OA
- The odds of incident symptomatic OA were higher with greater frequency of crepitus (p<0.0001 for trend)
- Of subjects who developed symptomatic OA, more than 75% had radiographic OA but no frequent knee pain at baseline
- The authors concluded that subjective knee crepitus can be used clinically to identify individuals at risk for symptomatic OA, potentially assisting with earlier diagnosis and ultimately with intervention.

Societal Impact of Osteoarthritis

- Affects approximately 27 million Americans aged 25+ and it is estimated that 1 in 2 people will get some form of OA in their lifetime⁵
- Arthritis and other rheumatic conditions are a leading cause of work disability among US adults⁶
- Research estimates that adults aged > 45 years with arthritis are about 2.5 times more likely to have two or more falls and suffer a fall injury in the past 12 months compared with adults without arthritis.⁷

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The prevalence of any fall (one or more), two or more falls, and fall injuries in the past 12 months was significantly higher among adults with arthritis compared with those without arthritis • Public health approaches to preventing falls among older adults include identifying and treating the symptoms of chronic conditions that increase fall risk, such as arthritis • Evidence-based self-management education • Physical activity interventions (most effective strategy involves exercise/PT) <p>More information on principles of learning and behavior change for health professionals can be found at www.pfizer.com/files/HealthProfessionalsLearningandBehaviorChange_AFewPrinciples.pdf.</p>
<p>Expected Approximate Monetary Range of Grant Applications:</p>	<p>The total available budget related to this CGA is \$100,000.</p> <p>The grant amount Pfizer will be prepared to fund will depend upon the evaluation of the proposal and costs involved and will be stated clearly in the approval notification.</p>
<p>Key Dates:</p>	<p>CGA release date: June 6, 2018</p> <p>Grant application due date: August 7, 2018 Please note the deadline is midnight Eastern Time (New York, GMT -5).</p> <p>Anticipated Grant Award Notification Date: By the end of September 2018</p> <p>Grants distributed following execution of fully signed Letter of Agreement</p> <p>Period of Performance: Beginning on of after October 2018</p>
<p>How to Submit:</p>	<p>Please go to the specific application log-in page and sign in. First-time users should click “REGISTER NOW”.</p> <p>Select the following Educational Area: CGA- Improving Recognition of Early Signs and Symptoms of Osteoarthritis</p> <p>Requirements for submission: Complete all required sections of the online application and upload the completed CGA template (see Appendix). If you encounter any technical difficulties with the grant management system, please click the “Need Support?” link at the bottom of the page.</p> <p>IMPORTANT: Be advised applications submitted through the wrong application type and/or submitted after the due date will not be reviewed by the committee.</p>

Questions:	If you have questions regarding this CGA, please direct them in writing to Jessica Romano at Jessica.Romano@pfizer.com with the subject line “CGA- Improving recognition of the early signs and symptoms of osteoarthritis.”
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 or to make a summary presentation during the review period.

IV. Terms and Conditions

Please take note every Call for Grant Applications (CGA) released by Pfizer Independent Grants for Learning & Change (IGLC) is governed by specific terms and conditions. These terms and conditions can be reviewed here:

http://www.pfizer.com/files/PfizerIGLC_CGA_TermsandConditions_2017Nov.pdf

References

1. Lubar D, White PH, Callahan LF, Chang RW, Helmick CG, Lappin DR, Melnick A, Moskowitz RW, Odom E, Sacks J, Toal SB. A national public health agenda for osteoarthritis 2010. In Seminars in arthritis and rheumatism 2010 Apr 1 (Vol. 39, No. 5, pp. 323-326). Elsevier. <https://www.cdc.gov/arthritis/docs/oaagenda.pdf>
2. Lo GH, Strayhorn MT, Driban JB, Price LL, Eaton CB, Mcalindon TE. Subjective Crepitus as a Risk Factor for Incident Symptomatic Knee Osteoarthritis: Data From the Osteoarthritis Initiative. Arthritis care & research. 2018 Jan 1;70(1):53-60.
3. Altman R, Asch E, Bloch D, Bole D, Borenstein K, Brandt K, et al. Development of criteria for the classification and reporting of osteoarthritis. Classification of osteoarthritis of the knee. Arthritis Rheum. 1986;29:1039–49.
4. Marra CA, Cibere J, Tsuyuki RT, Soon JA, Esdaile JM, Gastonguay L, Oteng B, Embley P, Colley L, Eneajor G, Kok R. Improving osteoarthritis detection in the community: pharmacist identification of new, diagnostically confirmed osteoarthritis. Arthritis Care & Research. 2007 Oct 15;7(7):1238-44.
5. <https://www.cdc.gov/media/subtopic/matte/pdf/Osteoarthritis.pdf>
6. Theis KA, Roblin D, Helmick CG, Luo R. Prevalence and causes of work disability among working-age US adults: 2011-2013. Disabil Health J. 2017 Apr 25. [Epub ahead of print] doi: 10.1016/j.dhjo.2017.04.010. PMID: 28476583
7. Barbour KE, Stevens JA, Helmick CG, Luo YH, Murphy LB, Hootman JM, Theis KA, Anderson LA, Baker NA, Sugerman DE. Falls and fall injuries among adults with arthritis—United States, 2012. Morb Mortal Wkly Rep. 2014;63(17):379-383

Appendix: CGA Grant Submission Template

Grant Applications should be single-spaced using Calibri 12-point font and 1-inch margins. Note there is a **15-page limit** exclusive of references. Please include the following:

- A. Title
- B. Organizational Detail: Describe the attributes of the institutions/organizations that will support and facilitate the execution of the project, the leadership of the proposed project, and the specific role of each partner in the proposed project.
- C. Goal: Briefly state the overall goal of the project.
- D. Objectives: List the objectives you plan to meet with your project, in terms of learning and expected outcomes.
- E. Assessment of Need: Include a quantitative baseline data summary, initial metrics, 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.

- F. Target Learner Audience: Describe the primary audience(s) targeted for this project. 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.
- G. Project Design and Methods: Describe the planned project, the educational approach, and the way the planned methods address the established need.
- H. 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.
- I. Outcomes Evaluation: In terms of the metrics used for the needs assessment, describe how you will determine if the gap was addressed for the target group. Identify the sources of data you anticipate using to make the determination. Describe how you expect to collect and analyze the data. Explain the method used to control for other factors outside this project (e.g., use of a control group or comparison with baseline data). Quantify the amount of change expected from this project in terms of your target audience. Describe how you will determine if the target audience was fully engaged in the project.
- J. Dissemination Plan: Describe how the project may have extended benefit beyond the grant. Will the teaching materials be made available to others to use? Will there be tools or resources that are made publicly available beyond the initial project. Describe how the project outcomes might be broadly disseminated.
- K. Timeline
- L. Additional Information: If there is any additional information you feel Pfizer should be aware of concerning the importance of this project, please summarize it in within the page limitations.
- M. References (outside the 15-page limit)
 - There is no designated format for references
- N. Budget (See template available in application)
 - While estimating your budget please keep the following items in mind:
 - Grants awarded by IGLC cannot be used to purchase therapeutic agents (prescription or non-prescription).
 - Pfizer maintains a company-wide, maximum allowed overhead rate of 28% for projects.
 - A separate Excel file should be uploaded. This does not count toward the page limit.
 - An example of the budget template can be found here:
<http://cybergrants.com/pfizer/docs/KnowledgeGapBudgetTemplate2015.xls>
 - At the conclusion of your program, a reconciliation of expenses is required using the original budget file submitted.

Grant Applications should be single-spaced using Calibri 12-point font and 1-inch margins. There is a **15-page limit** exclusive of references. If extensive, references may be included on 1-2 additional pages.