NIH funding opportunities

Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences: Research Development and Support **09 Feb 2021 (#01)**

[Click on blue hyperlink for further information]

*The NIH funding opportunities listed below are only a **selection** of pre-screened, currently open health funding opportunities for which **South African institutions are eligible to apply**. For a comprehensive selection of NIH funding opportunities, please visit **www.grants.nih.gov** or **www.sun.ac.za/RDSfunding** (current & archive).*

Confirm your intent to apply ASAP, but not later than 60 days before the submission date.

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Important Notices

- **NOT-OD-21-044: Notice of Intent to Publish a Funding Opportunity Announcement for Maximizing the Scientific Value of Existing Biospecimen Collections (R21 Clinical Trial Not Allowed).** NIH, via support from the FDA Center for Tobacco products (CTP), intends to fund up to 5 R21s, corresponding to a total of up to $1 million, for fiscal year 2021. Future year amounts will depend on availability of funds.
- **NOT-OD-21-045: Notice of Intent to Publish a Funding Opportunity Announcement for Secondary Analyses of Existing Datasets of Tobacco Use and Health (R21 Clinical Trial Not Allowed).** This Notice is to inform the research community that the National Institutes of Health (NIH) Tobacco Regulatory Science Program (TRSP), participating NIH Institutes and Centers (ICs), and the United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Center for Tobacco Products (CTP) intend to reissue the Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) RFA-OD-19-022 "Secondary Analyses of Existing Dataset of Tobacco Use and Health (R21 Clinical Trial Not Allowed)." When reissued, this FOA will continue to utilize the R21 grant mechanism.

Notices of Special Interest (NOSI)

- **NOT-MD-21-008 NOSI Research to Address Vaccine Hesitancy, Uptake, and Implementation among Populations that Experience Health Disparities.** The purpose of this NOSI is to solicit community-engaged research to: 1) evaluate intervention strategies (e.g., expand reach, access) to facilitate vaccination uptake in clinical and community contexts; and 2) address the barriers to increasing reach, access, and uptake of vaccinations among health disparity populations at high risk and likely to experience vaccine hesitancy. Submit applications for this initiative using one of the following funding opportunity announcements (FOAs) or any reissues of these announcement through the expiration date of this notice.
  - PA-20-183- Research Project Grant (Parent R01 Clinical Trial Required)
  - PA-20-185- NIH Research Project Grant (Parent R01 Clinical Trial Not Allowed)

- **NOT-AR-21-012. NOSI: Promoting Research on COVID-19 and Rheumatic, Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases.** The purpose of this Notice is to announce to potential applicants to the National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases (NIAMS) an interest in research on the impact of COVID-19 as related to diseases and conditions within the NIAMS mission. Submit applications for this initiative using one of the following funding opportunity announcements (FOAs) or any reissues of these announcement through the expiration date of this notice.
  - PA-20-185: NIH Research Project Grant (Parent R01 Clinical Trial Not Allowed)
  - PA-20-195: NIH Exploratory/Developmental Research Grant Program (Parent R21 Clinical Trial Not Allowed)
  - PAR-21-055: Mechanistic Ancillary Studies to Ongoing Clinical Projects (R01 Clinical Trial Not Allowed)
  - PAR-21-054: Mechanistic Ancillary Studies to Ongoing Clinical Projects (R21 Clinical Trial Not Allowed)
  - PAR-21-053: Clinical Observational (CO) Studies in Musculoskeletal, Rheumatic, and Skin Diseases (R01 Clinical Trial Not Allowed)

- **NOT-CA-21-025: NOSI: Innovative Molecular Analysis Technologies for Low-Resource Settings Globally.** This Notice of Special Interest (NOSI) is to alert the community that the National Cancer Institute (NCI) Center for Global Health (CGH) is seeking to leverage ongoing Innovative Molecular Analysis Technologies (IMAT) program activities to stimulate exploratory research on technology platforms relevant for global oncology and appropriate for use in low-resource settings globally. NCI CGH is prepared to support highly meritorious R21 applications submitted to either RFA-CA-21-003 or RFA-CA-21-005, with the goal of helping drive innovation in this field and enrich the pool of investigators participating in the NCI-sponsored Affordable Cancer Technologies (ACTs) Program.
- **NOT-MH-21-075 NOSI regarding the Use of Human Connectome Data for Secondary Analysis**. NIMH and participating institutes/centers (ICs) listed above are issuing this Notice of Special Interest (NOSI) to encourage secondary analyses of data from the Human Connectome Project (HCP) including the multiple datasets in the Lifespan Human Connectome projects and the Human Connectomes Related to Human Disease. Applicants beyond the groups that originally collected the data are encouraged to apply. The analyses will serve to generate and evaluate hypotheses about the complex interrelationships among: brain structure, function and connectivity; cognitive, affective, sensory and motor processes; environmental factors; life event, social and psychosocial factors; genomic data, and clinical symptoms during development, aging, or disease. Applicants must select the IC and associated FOA to use for submission of an application in response to the NOSI. Submit applications for this initiative using one of the following FOAs or any reissues of these announcement through the expiration date of this notice:
    - PA-20-184: NIH Research Project Grant (Parent R01 Basic Experimental Studies with Humans Required)
    - PA-20-185: NIH Research Project Grant (Parent R01 Clinical Trial Not Allowed)
    - PA-20-195: NIH Exploratory/Developmental Research Grant Program (Parent R21 Clinical Trial Not Allowed)
    - PA-20-196: NIH Exploratory/Developmental Research Grant Program (Parent R21 Basic Experimental Studies with Humans Required)
- **NOT-EY-21-007 Notice of Special Interest (NOSI) for the NEI Anterior Segment Initiative (ASI): Identification and Development of New Biomarkers and Effective methods to Diagnose Dry Eye Disease.** The purpose of this Notice of Special Interest (NOSI) is to inform potential applicants of the special interest of the NEI in research to identify new biomarkers and develop effective methods that can be used for the early diagnosis of dry eye disease (DED) and its subtypes, prognosis of disease progression, and monitoring of treatment response. Submit applications for this initiative using one of the following funding opportunity announcements (FOAs) or any reissues of these announcement through the expiration date of this notice.
    - PA-20-183 - Research Project Grant (Parent R01 Clinical Trial Required)
    - PA-20-185 - Research Project Grant (Parent R01 Clinical Trial Not Allowed)
    - PA-20-195 - NIH Exploratory/Developmental Research Grant Program (Parent R21 Clinical Trial Not Allowed)
    - PA-20-196- NIH Exploratory/Developmental Research Grant Program (Parent R21 Basic Experimental Studies with Humans Required)
- **NOT-MH-21-115 NOSI: Adopting Techniques and Tools Developed from the BRAIN Initiative Toward NIMH Strategic Research Priorities.** National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) has a vested interest in ensuring that BRAIN technologies become rapidly integrated into mental health relevant research projects. The goal of this NOSI is to express NIMH's interest in leveraging these developments to understand nervous system function in the service of cognition, social, or affective processing. NIMH encourages the use of network- or cell-type-specific manipulations to causally probe circuit function. Applicants are encouraged to propose research to understand functioning of brain circuits in healthy subjects as well as translational work. For the purposes of this NOSI, NIMH is particularly interested in BRAIN tools that allow large, population-scale in vivo recording, imaging, or circuit manipulation during cognitive, social, or affective behavior. The notice encourages collaborations with BRAIN Initiative investigators.
- **NOT-HD-21-004 NOSI: Biophysical and Biomechanical Aspects of Embryonic Development (R21**). The Notice of Scientific Interest (NOSI) is intended to encourage innovative and high risk/impact research in the area of physics/mechanics of embryonic development to be explored in model organisms. The research proposed under this program can explore approaches and concepts new to the area of developmental tissue mechanics, research and development of new technologies, or initial research and development of data upon which significant future research may be built. The focus of this NOSI is to promote research aimed at generating new and critical

information about tissue mechanics relevant to vertebrate development and understanding the basis for developmental disorders. Submit applications for this initiative using the following funding opportunity announcements (FOAs) or any reissues of these announcement through the expiration date of this notice.

- PA-20-195: NIH Exploratory/Developmental Research Grant Program (Parent R21 Clinical Trial Not Allowed)

Upcoming Deadlines

- **Strengthening Institutional Capacity to Conduct Global Cancer Research in Low- and Middle-Income Countries D43** 24 June 2021

Parent Announcements

Parent Announcements (PA) for unsolicited are broad funding opportunity announcements allowing applicants to submit investigator-initiated applications. They are open for up to 3 years and use standard due dates.

- PA-20-185 NIH Research Project Grant (Parent R01 Clinical Trial Not Allowed)
- PA-20-184 Research Project Grant (Parent R01 Basic Experimental Studies with Humans Required)
- PA-20-183 Research Project Grant (Parent R01 Clinical Trial Required)
- PA-20-200 NIH Small Research Grant Program (Parent R03 Clinical Trial Not Allowed)
- PA-20-195 NIH Exploratory/Developmental Research Grant Program (Parent R21 Clinical Trial Not Allowed)
- PA-20-194 NIH Exploratory/Developmental Research Grant Program (Parent R21 Clinical Trial Required)
- PA-20-196 NIH Exploratory/Developmental Research Grant Program (Parent R21 Basic Experimental Studies with Humans Required)

1. Priority HIV/AIDS Research within the Mission of the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases (NIDDK) (R01 Clinical Trial Optional)

Letter of Intent: 30 days prior to the application due date **Hyperlink: PAS-21-031** **Type: R01**

Application Due Date: Standard AIDS dates apply. Apply by 5:00 PM local time of applicant organization.

Funding Opportunity Announcement: This Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) seeks to stimulate HIV/AIDS research within the mission of the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases (NIDDK) that align with the HIV/AIDS research priorities outlined by the NIH Office of AIDS Research (OAR). These priorities were most recently described in NOT-OD-20-018 UPDATE: NIH HIV/AIDS Research Priorities and Guidelines for Determining HIV/AIDS Funding.

Budget: NIDDK intends to fund an estimate of 3 to 5 awards, corresponding to a total of $2,000,000, for fiscal year 2022. Future year amounts will depend on annual appropriations. Application budgets are not limited but need to reflect the actual needs of the proposed project. The scope of the proposed project should determine the project period. The maximum project period is 5 years.

2. Understanding and Reducing Cardiovascular Disease in Type 1 Diabetes Mellitus (R01 – Clinical Trial Optional)

Letter of Intent: 30 days prior to the application due date **Hyperlink: RFA-HL-21-014** **Type: R01**

Application Due Date: October 15, 2021 Apply by 5:00 PM local time of applicant organization.

Funding Opportunity Announcement: This funding opportunity is intended to support research that enhances the understanding of the pathophysiology and epidemiology of cardiovascular disease among individuals with Type 1 Diabetes Mellitus (T1DM) and advances the development of interventions to reduce CVD risk among these individuals. The overall goal is to develop evidence-based guidelines to prevent or reduce CVD complications of T1DM across the lifespan. This funding opportunity will support epidemiologic studies to refine risk assessment, mechanistic trials to enhance understanding of the pathophysiology of CVD in T1DM, and small clinical trials that could inform the future development of larger trials focused on preventing or reducing the CVD complications of T1DM.

Budget: NIDDK intends to commit total costs of up to $6,240,000 in FY2022 to fund up to 8 new awards. The number of awards is contingent upon appropriations from the NIDDK Special Diabetes Program and the submission of a sufficient number of meritorious applications. NHLBI will be responsible for the administration of funds for each award. Application budgets need to reflect the actual needs of the proposed project and may not exceed $500,000 in direct costs in any one year. he scope of the proposed project should determine the project period. Consistent with NHLBI policy, approved investigator-initiated R01 competing applications may be funded for up to four years. The only exceptions to this policy are awards made to Early Stage Investigators (ESIs), clinical studies and clinical trials with patient accrual and follow-up timelines that cannot be accomplished within four years. These excepted applications will generally be awarded for the full length of their NHLBAC recommended project periods. The maximum project period is 5 years.

3. Pilot Studies of Biological, Behavioral and Social Mechanisms Contributing to HIV Pathogenesis Within the Mission of the NIDDK (R21 Clinical Trial Not Allowed)

Letter of Intent: 30 days prior to the application due date **Hyperlink: PAR-21-062** **Type: R21**

Application Due Date: Standard AIDS dates apply. Apply by 5:00 PM local time of applicant organization.

Funding Opportunity Announcement: This Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) invites applications for innovative basic and translational pilot research projects within the mission of the NIDDK that are aligned with NIH HIV/AIDS research priorities. These priorities were most recently outlined by the NIH Office of AIDS Research (OAR) in NOT-20-018, UPDATE: NIH HIV/AIDS Research Priorities and Guidelines for Determining HIV/AIDS Funding, scientific priorities. Potential topics could address multiple overarching priorities. These include elucidation of unique pathophysiological mechanisms contributing to HIV comorbidities, coinfections, and complications (CCCs) affecting organs, tissues, and processes within the mission of the NIDDK. Likewise, interrogations into biological mechanisms underlying HIV reservoirs in NIDDK-relevant tissues are important for developing strategies for long-term viral suppression or eradication. Finally, health-impeding social determinants of health may affect CCCs or viral reservoirs within NIDDK's mission through multiple pathways.

Budget: The combined budget for direct costs for the two-year project period may not exceed $275,000. No more than $200,000 may be requested in any single year.

4. NIAID Clinical Trial Implementation Cooperative Agreement (U01 Clinical Trial Required)

Letter of Intent: 30 days prior to the application due date **Hyperlink: PAR-21-083** **Type: U01**

Application Due Date: May 14, 2021; September 13, 2021; January 14, 2022; May 13, 2022; September 13, 2022; January 13, 2023; May 13, 2023; September 14, 2023; January 13, 2024Apply by 5:00 PM local time of applicant organization.

Funding Opportunity Announcement: This Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) encourages cooperative agreement applications for implementation of investigator-initiated, high-risk clinical trials and mechanistic studies associated with high-risk clinical trials. Mechanistic work in clinical trials may be of great value because it promotes the understanding of human diseases and the development of future therapeutic modalities. Investigators are encouraged to visit the NIAID website for additional information about the research mission and high-priority research areas of the NIAID (https://www.niaid.nih.gov/research/role). Only one clinical trial may be proposed in each NIAID Clinical Trial Implementation Cooperative Agreement (U01) application.

Budget: Application budgets are not limited but need to reflect the actual needs of the proposed project. The scope of the proposed project should determine the project period. The maximum period is 5 years.

5. Immune Development in Early Life (IDEaL) (U01 Clinical Trial Not Allowed)

Letter of Intent: 30 days prior to the application due date **Hyperlink: RFA-AI-20-077** **Type: U01**

Application Due Date: June 4, 2021Apply by 5:00 PM local time of applicant organization.

Funding Opportunity Announcement: The purpose of this Funding Opportunity Announcement is to support research to define the mechanisms regulating the establishment, development and maintenance of immunity throughout childhood (from birth to less than 18 years of age), including the impact of pathogenic or commensal microbes or vaccination against infectious diseases, allergens or environmental pollutants on immune ontogeny and function. This program will establish collaborations among immunologists, neonatologists, pediatricians, systems biologists, and microbiologists to expand our knowledge of the developing immune system. Knowledge obtained through this program may be applied to the design of improved vaccines and immunotherapies to combat infections or treat/prevent immune-mediated diseases in this vulnerable population.

Budget: Application budgets are limited to $500,000 in direct costs per year and must reflect the actual needs of the proposed project. The scope of the proposed project should determine the project period. The maximum project period is 5 years.

6. HEAL Initiative: HEALthy Brain and Child Development Study (Collaborative U01- Clinical Trial Not Allowed)

Letter of Intent: 30 days prior to the application due date **Hyperlink: RFA-DA-21-020** **Type: U01**

Application Due Date: March 31, 2021Apply by 5:00 PM local time of applicant organization.

Funding Opportunity Announcement: The purpose of this Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) is to seek applications for linked Research Project Sites for the HEALthy Brain and Child Development (HBCD) Study using the cooperative agreement award mechanism. This FOA runs in parallel with companion FOAs that seek applications for single, unlinked Research Project Sites (RFA-DA-21-021), a single Consortium Administrative Core (RFA-DA-21-022) and a single Data Coordinating Center (RFA-DA-21-023). It is expected that investigators, upon funding, will work jointly with NIH scientific staff to assist, guide, coordinate, or participate in project activities. This FOA seeks applications to create a consortium of research sites in service of the nationwide, multi-site, multi-modal, longitudinal cohort HBCD Study to prospectively examine brain and behavioral development from birth through childhood, including an emphasis on understanding the impact of in utero substance exposure on outcomes. Research sites will enroll pregnant women and collect data from them and their children using methodologies that include neuroimaging, neurophysiology, behavioral and cognitive assessments and collection of biospecimens.

Budget: NIH intends to fund approximately 20-25 research sites from this FOA and its companion (RFA-DA-21-021), corresponding to a total of $26,000,000 for fiscal year 2021. Future year amounts are contingent upon annual appropriations. Application budgets are not limited but need to reflect the actual needs of the proposed project. The maximum project period is five years.

7. Biomarkers for Diabetic Foot Ulcers through the Diabetic Foot Consortium (R61/R33 Clinical Trial Not Allowed)

Letter of Intent: 30 days prior to the application due date **Hyperlink: RFA-DK-21-001** **Type: R61/R33**

Application Due Date: April 22, 2021 and November 03, 2021 Apply by 5:00 PM local time of applicant organization.

Funding Opportunity Announcement: The purpose of this Funding Opportunity Announcement is to promote the development of prognostic, monitoring, and diagnostic biomarkers for diabetic foot ulcers that can be used in clinical trials and patient care. This initiative will support early analytical and clinical validation of biomarkers through a phased award to encourage innovative research. The initiative will leverage the resources of the Diabetic Foot Consortium to facilitate the access to well-characterized patients and high-quality human samples. The goal of this initiative is to deliver candidate biomarkers that are ready for definitive analytical and clinical validation studies through the Diabetic Foot Consortium.

Budget: NIDDK intends to commit $1.5 million in FY 2021 and in FY 2022 to fund two to three awards each year. Application budgets are limited to $325,000 in direct costs per year. The project period for the R61 grant is limited to one or two years and the R33 grant to two or three years. The project period for the combined R61 and R33 grants is limited to four years.

8. BRAIN Initiative: New Concepts and Early-Stage Research for Recording and Modulation in the Nervous System (R21) (Clinical Trial Not Allowed)

Letter of Intent: 30 days prior to the application due date **Hyperlink: RFA-EY-21-001** **Type: R21**

Application Due Date: May 3, 2021; October 29, 2021; May 2, 2022; October 28, 2022; May 1, 2023; October 27, 2023 Apply by 5:00 PM local time of applicant organization.

Funding Opportunity Announcement: This FOA seeks applications for unique and innovative recording and/or modulation technologies that are in the earliest stage of development, including new and untested ideas that are in the initial stages of conceptualization. Some projects may aim to increase recording or modulation capabilities by many orders of magnitude, while others may aim to improve the precision and selectivity of recording or modulation (also referred to as stimulation, perturbation, or manipulation). A wide range of modalities are appropriate including acoustic, chemical, electrical, magnetic, optical and chemical, as well as the use of genetic tools. Invasive or non-invasive approaches are sought that will enable large-scale recording and/or precise manipulation of neural activity, and that would ultimately be compatible with experiments in humans or behaving animals. Applications are encouraged from any qualified individuals, including physicists, engineers, theoreticians, and scientists, especially those not typically involved with neuroscience research.

Budget: NIH intends to fund an estimated 10 awards per fiscal year, corresponding to a total of $3-4 million in new awards per year. Application budgets may not exceed $400,000 total direct costs over a maximum three-year funding period. No more than $200,000 total direct costs may be requested in any single year. The scope of the proposed project should determine the project period. The maximum project period is 3 years.