NIH GUIDE

For Grants and Contracts

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The NIH Guide announces scientific initiatives and provides policy and administrative information to individuals and organizations who need to be kept informed of opportunities, requirements, and changes in extramural programs administered by the National Institutes of Health.

Vol. 20, No. 4
January 25, 1991

NOTICES

NOTICES OF AVAILABILITY (RFPs AND RFAs)

ONGOING PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENTS

"OTHER SUPPORT" IN PHS GRANT APPLICATIONS

P.T. 34; K.W. 1014002, 1014006

National Institutes of Health
Alcohol, Drug Abuse, and Mental Health Administration

The PHS 398 (Rev. 10/88) and PHS 2590 (Rev. 10/88) grant application forms include a section on OTHER SUPPORT, where applicants are expected to list all, including both Federal and non-Federal, active support and pending and planned requests for support of research and research-related activities by all key personnel listed for each application. This information is important to PHS review-award processes to help evaluate the compatibility of application requests with investigators' capabilities and responsibilities, and eliminate unwarranted duplication of support for investigators' efforts. Application instructions emphasize the requirement for complete, accurate, and reliable information. In signing the face page of the application the principal investigator/program director and the applicant institution official certify that the application information is accurate and complete.

Applicants are reminded of the necessity to provide the full and reliable information requested. As noted in the instructions, "Incomplete, inaccurate, or ambiguous information about OTHER SUPPORT could lead to delays in review of the application." Further, applicants should be cognizant that serious consequences could result if failure to provide complete and accurate information be construed as an attempt to mislead PHS agency advisory groups and staff in their review and award responsibilities.

"OTHER SUPPORT" IN NIH AND ADAMHA R&D CONTRACT PROPOSALS

P.T. 34; K.W. 1014002, 1014006

National Institutes of Health
Alcohol, Drug Abuse, and Mental Health Administration

Documentation required in National Institutes of Health and Alcohol, Drug Abuse, and Mental Health Administration uniform Request for Proposals include Standard Form 1411, Contract Pricing Proposal Cover Sheet, which instructs offerors to identify any contracts or subcontracts they have been awarded "for the same or similar items" within the past three years. Additionally, offerors are required to provide a Summary of Related Activities, identifying all active federal contracts, cooperative agreements, grants, and commercial agreements, and submitted proposals, including actual and proposed levels of effort for all key individuals in the proposal to NIH.

As with PHS grant applications, mentioned just above, offerors should be aware that serious consequences could result if their failure to provide complete and accurate information be construed as an attempt to mislead agency advisory groups and staff in their review and award responsibilities.

CONFERENCE: FOSTERING SCIENTIFIC INTEGRITY IN BIOMEDICAL RESEARCH

P.T. 42; K.W. 1014004, 1014006

National Institutes of Health

The National Institutes of Health (NIH), the Association of American Medical Colleges, and Washington University School of Medicine are co-sponsoring an interactive conference for biomedical investigators, research administrators, and university attorneys with an interest in fostering the integrity of scientists. The goals of the workshop are to discuss the scope of the problem of scientific misconduct; to identify perceived or real factors contributing to misconduct; to discuss the roles of Congress, NIH, and institutions in managing allegations of scientific misconduct; to examine how well specific institutions have dealt with allegations of fraud, plagiarism or other unacceptable scientific practices; to discuss any special ethical considerations associated with Industry/University ties; and to discuss the responsibilities of authors and collaborators in maintaining scientific integrity in research. Several break-out sessions will address focussed topics of particular concern.

This conference is approved for credit in AMA Category 1.

DATES: April 25-26, 1991

SITE: The Adams Mark Hotel, St. Louis, MO

PROGRAM AND REGISTRATION INFORMATION: Telephone: (800) 325-9862, interstate
(314) 362-6893, in Missouri

ANIMAL WELFARE EDUCATION PROGRAM: SURGERY AND POST-SURGICAL CARE

P.T. 42; K.W. 0201011, 0785210

National Institutes of Health

The National Institutes of Health, Office for Protection from Research Risks, is cosponsoring with The Medical University of South Carolina an animal welfare education program entitled, "Surgery and Post-Surgical Care." The workshop will be held in Charleston, South Carolina at the Mills House Hotel, Meeting & Queen Streets, on April 4-5, 1991.

The meeting is open to institutional administrators, Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) members, laboratory animal veterinarians, investigators, and other institutional staff who have responsibility for high-quality management of institutional animal care and use programs. The meeting will focus on NIH and USDA regulations pertaining to animal use in biomedical research and instruction. The emphasis of the workshop is surgery, post-surgical care, anesthesia, and analgesia in experimental animals.

Registration is limited. Hotel reservations should be made by March 1.

For further information, please contact:

Dr. M. Michael Swindle
Department of Comparative Medicine
Medical University of South Carolina
Charleston, SC 29425
Telephone: (803) 792-3625

For additional information regarding future workshops, contact:

Mrs. Roberta Sonneborn
Executive Assistant for Animal Welfare Education
Office for Protection from Research Risks
National Institutes of Health
Building 31, Room 5B59
9000 Rockville Pike
Bethesda, MD 20892
Telephone: (301) 496-7163
FAX: (301) 402-0527

METHODS OF MOLECULAR MECHANICS AND DYNAMICS OF BIOPOLYMERS WORKSHOP

P.T. 42; K.W. 0780018, 0760060

National Center for Research Resources

The Pittsburgh Supercomputing Center (PSC) is conducting a three-day workshop on "Methods of Molecular Mechanics and Dynamics of Biopolymers," April 7-10, 1991. This program is funded by a grant from the Biomedical Research Technology Program, National Center for Research Resources, National Institutes of Health.

The workshop will familiarize biomedical researchers with computational methods and provide practice in applying supercomputing resources to problems of concern in molecular mechanics. Practical experience on a Cray Y-MP/832 will be gained in applications to: (1) the theory and practice of molecular mechanics and dynamics; (2) the development and refinement of molecular mechanics force fields; (3) the problem of conformation mapping and analysis of polypeptide structures, including the refinement of structure from measured NMR data; and (4) computation of interaction energies and free energies for protein-drug interactions and conformational thermodynamics. The use of state-of-the-art macromolecular computational packages will be illustrated.

The workshop leaders are Dr. Charles L. Brooks III of Carnegie Mellon University and Dr. Kenneth Merz of the Pennsylvania State University.

Previous programming or supercomputing experience is desirable but not necessary. A half-day session on April 7, led by PSC staff members, will focus on the operation of the VAX, VMS, and UNICOS, the Cray version of the AT&T System V Unix operating system.

Travel, meals, and hotel accommodations for U.S. academic participants are supported by the grant. Enrollment is limited to 20 participants. The deadline for submission of applications is February 28, 1991.

For an application or further information, call or write:

Nancy Kiser
PSC Biomedical Coordinator
Pittsburgh Supercomputing Center
4400 Fifth Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15213
Telephone: (412) 268-4960
Internet: kiser@psc.edu
Bitnet: kiser@pscwpsca

NOTICES OF AVAILABILITY (RFPs AND RFAs)

EPIDEMIOLOGICAL, CLINICAL, BASIC, AND INTERVENTION STUDIES FOR IMPROVING ORAL HEALTH IN OLDER AMERICANS AND OTHERS AT HIGH RISK (NIDR RESEARCH AND ACTION PROGRAM)

BAA/RFP AVAILABLE: NIH-NIDR-1-91-4R

P.T. 34; K.W. 0715148, 0785035, 0785055, 0411005

National Institute of Dental Research

The National Institute of Dental Research (NIDR) is soliciting contract proposals for research to aid in implementing the NIDR's Research and Action Program to Improve the Oral Health of Older Americans and Other Adults at Risk. This is a notice of an anticipated Broad Agency Announcement (BAA), RFP NO. NIH-NIDR-1-91-4R, to be issued approximately February 12, 1991, with a closing date for proposals of May 1, 1991.

Offerors are encouraged to submit proposals for epidemiological, clinical, basic, and intervention studies relevant to reducing tooth mortality in adult and other groups at higher risk of suffering tooth mortality or related oral diseases. Supplementary materials on the aims and scope of the NIDR's Research and Action Program will be provided with the BAA package. Proposals shall not exceed a period of performance of more than three years. Proposals based on an initial feasibility phase, and subject to additional review, may also be submitted.

Proposals are expected to address at least one of the following topics:

1. Identifying individuals at higher risk of tooth mortality, or oral diseases directly relevant to tooth loss, or developing improved methods for predicting patterns of tooth mortality.

2. Identifying, developing, or testing methods for preventing tooth mortality or related diseases in persons or population subgroups at higher risk.

3. Developing and testing materials or procedures that require removal of less tooth structure.

4. Assessing short- and long-term changes in tooth mortality or oral disease status resulting from health promotion efforts.

5. Assessing the effectiveness, efficacy, and acceptability (including costs) of measures relevant to reducing tooth mortality.

6. Investigating the influence of barriers to care or the effects of utilization of dental services on tooth mortality or related diseases.

7. Evaluating the effects of currently available oral health care methods or of variations in care upon tooth mortality.

8. Identifying, developing, or testing methods to establish knowledge, attitudes, or behaviors producing reductions in tooth mortality.

9. Developing and evaluating methods to minimize tooth mortality or the onset or progression of related oral diseases in medically compromised patients.

10. Characterizing how local oral factors (e.g., salivary function) influence tooth mortality or related diseases and associated intervention studies to reduce these diseases or tooth loss.

The BAA solicitation will contain additional information on each research topic, along with instructions for proposal preparation and submission, proposal evaluation criteria, and required forms. Proposals may be reviewed and acted upon as they are received. However, no proposal will be accepted after 4:00 p.m., Wednesday, May 1, 1991. Five to eight awards are anticipated. Selection for award will be based on technical merit, cost realism of proposed effort, greatest advantage to the Government, and availability of funds.

BAA/RFP No. NIH-NIDR-1-91-4R will be available approximately February 12, 1991, by written request to:

Ms. Marion L. Blevins
Contract Management Section
National Institute of Dental Research
National Institutes of Health
Westwood Building, Room 521
Bethesda, MD 20892

SALMONELLA MUTAGENICITY TESTING (SMALL BUSINESS SET ASIDE)

RFP AVAILABLE: NIH-ES-91-11

P.T. 34; K.W. 1002028, 0780000

National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences

The National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS), National Institutes of Health (NIH), is soliciting proposals from offerors having the capability for salmonella mutagenicity testing. This RFP is set aside for small businesses. The results obtained from this contract will be used for setting priorities for long-term animal testing and will provide information on mechanisms of action for selected chemicals. The contract will be required to test chemicals and evaluate urine samples for mutagenicity in Salmonella. Two phases are planned. In Phase I, the contractor shall demonstrate that ability to perform the protocols required with the various strains in an efficient, effective, and reproducible manner. This phase will involve twelve (12) chemical samples and one (1) urine sample and should take about four months. Phase II will be contingent on successful completion of Phase I. In Phase II the contractor shall test approximately thirty-eight (38) chemical samples and two (2) urine samples during the remainder of year 1 and fifty (50) chemical samples and three (3) urine samples for years 2-5. The chemicals will be tested under code, in triplicate, using at least five dose levels. A preliminary toxicity experiment will be run on all chemicals prior to mutagenicity testing. Urines from approximately three (3) dose levels of animal treatment shall be tested, using triplicate plates. All work shall be performed in manner compatible with the NTP Health and Safety Minimum Requirements for In Vitro Toxicology Contractors. The Government estimates that 0.3 professional person-years and 1 technical person-year will be required for each year of this contract. This project will cover a five-year period. The estimated issuance date of RFP NIH-ES-91-11 is January 31, 1991, and responses will be due approximately 45 days thereafter. The Institute expects to make one award from this solicitation.

Requests should reference RFP NIH-ES-91-11 and should be forwarded to:

National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences
Contracts and Procurement Management Branch, OM
ATTN: Jo Ann Lewis
79 T.W. Alexander Drive, 4401 Building
P.O. Box 12874
Research Triangle Park, NC 27709
Telephone: (919) 541-7893

SALMONELLA MUTAGENICITY TESTING

RFP AVAILABLE: NIH-ES-91-12

P.T. 34; K.W. 1002028, 0780000

National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences

The National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS), National Institutes of Health (NIH), is soliciting proposals from offerors having the capability for salmonella mutagenicity testing. The results obtained from this contract will be used for setting priorities for long-term animal testing and will provide information on mechanisms of action for selected chemicals. The contract will be required to test chemicals and evaluate urine samples for mutagenicity in Salmonella. Two phases are planned. In Phase I, the contractor shall demonstrate the ability to perform the protocols required with the various strains in an efficient, effective, and reproducible manner. This phase will involve twelve (12) chemical samples and one (1) urine sample and should take about four months. Phase II will be contingent on successful completion of Phase I. In Phase II the contractor shall test approximately thirty-eight (38) chemical samples and two (2) urine samples during the remainder of year 1 and fifty (50) chemical samples and three (3) urine samples per year for years 2-5. The chemicals will be tested under code, in triplicate, using at least five dose levels. A preliminary toxicity experiment will be run on all chemicals prior to mutagenicity testing. Urines from approximately three (3) dose levels of animal treatment shall be tested using triplicate plates. All work shall be performed in manner compatible with the NTP Health and Safety Minimum Requirements for In Vitro Toxicology Contractors. The Government estimates that 0.3 professional person-years and 1 technical person-year will be required for each year of this contract. This project will cover a five-year period. The estimated issuance date of RFP NIH-ES-91-12 is January 31, 1991, and responses will be due approximately 45 days thereafter. The Institute expects to make one award from this solicitation.

Requests should reference RFP NIH-ES-91-12 and should be forwarded to:

National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences
Contracts and Procurement Management Branch, OM
ATTN: Jo Ann Lewis
79 T.W. Alexander Drive, 4401 Building
P.O. Box 12874
Research Triangle Park, NC 27709
Telephone: (919) 541-7893

MAINTENANCE AND OPERATION OF A SYNTHETIC CHEMICAL FACILITY

RFP AVAILABLE: NICHD-CD-91-3

P.T. 34; K.W. 1003006, 1003012, 0750020, 0760085

National Institute of Child Health and Human Development

The Contraceptive Development Branch of the Center for Population Research, National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD), has a requirement for the maintenance and operation of a synthetic chemical facility for the synthesis of anti-fertility agents on a laboratory scale (1-5 grams) as well as on a relatively large scale (1,000 grams). The maximum quantities of any final product to be prepared by multistep synthesis via batchwise operations will not normally exceed 1,000 grams.

It is desirable that Offerors should have expertise in the synthesis of optically active steroids, steroid-protein conjugates as immunogenic agents, a wide variety of unnatural amino acids including resolution work, asymmetric synthesis, stereocontrolled approach, and determination of their optical purity, and other non-steroidal compounds including separation of stereoisomers and/or resolution work. In addition, the capability to perform High Performance Liquid Chromatography (HPLC) analysis for the detection and quantification of circulating drugs in serum, urine, and feces from animals, and to perform analytical work in order to assess the purity of compounds, is desirable. Specific assignment of compounds and quantities to be prepared will be determined by the Project Officer. Major emphasis will be on the preparation of experimental compounds on a laboratory scale (1-5 grams).

As minimum requirements, organizations must have the following in-house equipment (or indications of anticipated purchase of same): ultraviolet, infrared and 13C and 1H nuclear magnetic resonance spectrometers (90-100MHz),

mass spectrometer, polarimeter, gas chromatography, analytical high performance liquid chromatography preferably equipped with an integrator, and preparative high-performance liquid chromatography that can provide gram quantities of purified compounds. The Government does not intend to furnish any of the above equipment or facilities. The Contractor's facilities must meet the requirements in compliance with the Occupational Safety and Health Administration and the contractor must have a nuclear license. The Contractor must have in-house capabilities and five full-time supporting technical staff who will devote 100 percent of their time to the project. No subcontracting will be permitted. The Government estimates the effort to be approximately 5.25 technical staff years annually.

It is desirable that the Principal Investigator is an established synthetic organic chemist of drug synthesis with a Ph.D. degree and will devote a minimum of 25% of her/his time to this project.

All responsible sources may submit a proposal that shall be considered by the agency. It is anticipated that one cost-reimbursement, incrementally funded type contract will be awarded as a result of the Request for Proposals (RFP) for a period of sixty (60) months beginning August 1, 1991. The RFP is a recompetition of contract N01-HD-6-2928 for the "Maintenance and Operation of a Synthetic Chemical Facility" being performed by the Southwest Foundation for Biomedical Research, San Antonio, Texas.

This announcement is not an RFP. RFP-NICHD-CD-91-3 will be issued on or about January 25, 1991. Proposals will be due approximately 45 days thereafter. Copies of the RFP may be obtained by sending written requests to Mr. Paul J. Duska at the address listed below. Please enclose a self-addressed label. Requests may also be made by FAX telephone (301) 496-0962.

Paul J. Duska, Contracting Officer
Contracts Management Branch, OGC
National Institute of Child Health and Human Development
Executive Plaza North, Room 610
9000 Rockville Pike
Bethesda, MD 20892

BASIC AND CLINICAL RESEARCH ON THE URINARY BLADDER AND PELVIC MUSCULATURE IN INTERSTITIAL CYSTITIS

RFA AVAILABLE: DK-91-04

P.T. 34; K.W. 0705075, 0765035, 0710030

National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases

Letter of Intent Receipt Date: March 1, 1991
Application Receipt Date: April 22, 1991

This Request for Applications (RFA) emphasizes the continued interest of the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases (NIDDK) in funding research studies in all areas of the investigation of the urinary bladder and the adjacent structures, including the pelvic musculature. The special emphasis of these studies should address issues that may have particular relevance to increasing our basic understanding of the disorder of interstitial cystitis (IC). Investigators from diverse clinical and basic science disciplines with a research interest in the pathophysiology of bladder function and its interrelationship with lower pelvic musculature are encouraged to submit applications.

INTRODUCTION

IC is a chronic, painful, and variably incapacitating disorder that manifests a symptom complex consisting of pain in the region of the urinary bladder and associated pelvic musculature and variable motor and sensory dysfunctions of the urinary bladder.

In order to assure that patient selection for clinical studies is uniform the NIDDK has established Diagnostic Criteria for research studies on IC. ALL CLINICAL GRANT APPLICATIONS MUST STATE THAT THE NIDDK IC DIAGNOSTIC CRITERIA WILL BE APPLIED TO PATIENTS SELECTED FOR INCLUSION IN THE RESEARCH STUDY. These criteria have been published in: the JOURNAL OF UROLOGY 142(1): 139,1989 and the AMERICAN JOURNAL OF KIDNEY DISEASES 8(4):353, 1989. They may also be obtained from the Director of the Urology Program, Division of Kidney, Urologic and Hematologic Diseases.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES AND SCOPE OF RESEARCH

The specific objectives of this RFA are to encourage investigators, not now working in the field of bladder physiology and pathophysiology, to enter the field of IC research. Especially encouraged are investigators with research expertise in the basic and clinical science areas of immunology, infectious diseases, endocrinology, cellular and molecular biology, and bladder and muscular neurophysiology and pharmacology.

Areas that need investigation include, but are not limited to, the following:

- o The effect of hormones and/or growth regulatory peptides on the normal function of the bladder and in interstitial cystitis.
- o The role of infectious agents in the pathogenesis of IC.
- o Inflammatory mediators, including free radicals, in IC
- o Comparisons of cellular calcium transport in the normal bladder and in interstitial cystitis.
- o Comparisons of the neurotransmitter innervation of the normal bladder and adjacent pelvic musculature with those of IC.
- o Immunity and autoimmunity in the pathogenesis of IC.
- o Surgical interventions in the treatment of IC.
- o Innovative forms of therapy for interstitial cystitis.
- o Comparison of the role of the pelvic floor musculature in normal bladder function and in interstitial cystitis.
- o The role of glycosaminoglycans and Tamm-Horsefall protein (uromodulin) in normal bladder physiology and in IC.
- o The urothelium in the normal bladder function and in IC.
- o Urine constituents specifically associated with IC.
- o Genetic factors associated with interstitial cystitis.

APPLICATION, REVIEW, AND FUNDING PROCEDURES

Response to this RFA is limited to individual research project (R01) grant applications. Applications must be submitted on the revised (10/88) form PHS-398. Applications from women and minority investigators are encouraged.

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS FOR INCLUSION OF WOMEN AND MINORITIES IN CLINICAL RESEARCH STUDIES

The following is a brief statement of the NIH and ADAMHA policy regarding the inclusion of women and minorities in study populations. Applications that are responsive to this RFA will, by definition, meet the requirement for inclusion of women. The inclusion of minorities must be addressed in application submitted responding to this RFA.

For projects involving clinical research, NIH requires applicants to give special attention to the inclusion of women and minorities in study populations. If women or minorities are not included in the study populations for clinical studies, a specific justification for this exclusion must be provided. Applications without such documentation will not be accepted for review.

Upon receipt, applications will be initially reviewed by the Division of Research Grants (DRG) for completeness. Incomplete applications will be returned to the applicant without further consideration. Evaluation for responsiveness to the program requirements and criteria stated in the RFA is an NIDDK program staff function. Applications that are judged non-responsive will be administratively inactivated. Applications responsive to this RFA will be reviewed for scientific and technical merit in accordance with the usual NIH peer review procedures by an NIDDK initial review group specifically convened for this RFA. Following study section review, the applications will be given a secondary review by the NIDDK Advisory Council.

Up to $1 million are available in support of this RFA. The specific number of grants and total amount of funds to be awarded depends on the scientific merit of each application and the total costs of the applications. Each application

should include travel funds designated for the Principal Investigator to attend an annual NIDDK research workshop on interstitial cystitis.

Applications must be received by April 22, 1991.

THE RFA LABEL CONTAINED IN THE APPLICATION KIT MUST BE AFFIXED TO THE BOTTOM OF THE FACE PAGE OF THE ORIGINAL COPY OF THIS APPLICATION. FAILURE TO USE THIS LABEL COULD RESULT IN DELAYED PROCESSING OF THE APPLICATION. FOR PURPOSES OF IDENTIFICATION AND PROCESSING, THE RFA NUMBER, DK-91-04, AND TITLE SHOULD BE TYPED IN ITEM 2 ON THE FACE PAGE OF THE APPLICATION.

The original and four copies of the application must be sent to:

Division of Research Grants
Westwood Building, Room 240
National Institutes of Health
Bethesda, MD 20892**

Two additional copies of the application must be sent under separate cover to:

Dr. Robert Hammond
Chief, Review Branch
Division of Extramural Activities, NIDDK
National Institutes of Health
Westwood Building, Room 406
Bethesda, MD 20892

Letter of Intent: It is requested that the applicant submit a one-page letter of intent giving the name of the Principal Investigator, any other investigators, a descriptive title of the proposed research, and the institution. The letter is not a requirement for application and should be received by March 1, 1991.

Letters of intent, inquiries, and requests for the more detailed full RFA should be sent to:

Director, Urology Program, NIDDK/DKUHD
National Institutes of Health
Federal Building, Room 102
Bethesda, MD 20892
Telephone: (301) 496-8248
FAX: (301) 402-0223

The full RFA is available in the electronic version of the NIH Guide for Grants and Contracts (E-Guide).

RESEARCH CENTER OF EXCELLENCE IN PEDIATRIC NEPHROLOGY AND UROLOGY

RFA AVAILABLE: DK-91-07

P.T. 04; K.W. 0785095, 0785220, 0770005

National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases

Application Receipt Date: April 2, 1991

The Division of Kidney, Urologic and Hematologic Diseases (DKUHD) of the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases (NIDDK) invites applications for a pediatric kidney and urology research center grant (P50) to be awarded in fiscal year 1991. NIDDK anticipates the award of one pediatric kidney and urology center grant from this solicitation.

BACKGROUND

Kidney and urologic diseases account for substantial and increasing morbidity and financial burden in the United States. They threaten the health and wellbeing of over 13 million Americans and accounted for an estimated cost of at least $50 billion in 1990. Although considerable progress has been made in understanding the basic physiology and pathophysiology of the normal renal and urinary systems, there has been only limited progress in unraveling the mechanisms of disease processes. Renal failure is more frequent in adults, but the majority have their onset in childhood. A significant proportion of disorders that lead to end-stage renal disease (ESRD) or cause severe metabolic imbalances in children are inherited (or are presumed to be) renal diseases. To date, investigations have provided only detailed morphologic descriptions of basement membrane abnormalities in only a few of the inherited glomerular disorders and have characterized the tubular pathology in the

various inherited cystic diseases. However, at present, the understanding of the molecular, cellular, and biochemical basis of these disorders is lacking.

OBJECTIVES AND SCOPE

The emphases of this initiative are threefold: (1) to attract new scientific expertise into the study of the basic mechanisms of pediatric kidney and urological diseases; (2) to encourage interdisciplinary research in this area; and (3) to extend these basic investigations into areas that will provide the background for future innovative clinical and epidemiologic studies of the causes, therapy, and prevention of pediatric kidney and urologic diseases and disorders. In approaching the study of these disease processes, it is anticipated that extensive collaboration will be required between clinical and basic scientists such as those in cell biology, molecular biology, immunology, genetics, epidemiology, biochemistry, physiology, and pathology. Individual institutions with both basic and clinical research capabilities are eligible to apply. Interinstitutional collaborative research arrangements are also permitted and encouraged whenever appropriate.

PEDIATRIC NEPHROLOGY

Representative areas of research appropriate for investigation include: (1) studies of renal disorders of genetic and congenital origin that may lead to progressive loss of renal function or cause severe metabolic imbalances in children; (2) identification and study of genes integral to normal renal and urinary tract development and to differentiation of renal function, including studies of cellular derivation of the glomerular components, composition, and characteristics of the embryonic extracellular matrix and endothelial cells.

PEDIATRIC UROLOGY

Examples of representative areas of research appropriate for investigation include: (1) the pathophysiology of bladder function and dysfunction in the pediatric population, (2) the development of diagnostic methodology for the evaluation of these defects.

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS FOR INCLUSION OF WOMEN AND MINORITIES IN CLINICAL RESEARCH STUDIES

The following is a brief statement of the NIH and ADAMHA policy regarding the inclusion of women and minorities in study populations. However, for the purposes of this RFA, women denotes females of all ages.

For projects involving clinical research, NIH requires applicants to give special attention to the inclusion of women and minorities in study populations. If women or minorities are not included in the study populations for clinical studies, a specific justification for this exclusion must be provided. Applications without such documentation will not be accepted for review.

MECHANISM OF SUPPORT

NIDDK expects to award one pediatric research center grant (P50) in fiscal year 1991 on a competitive basis. Foreign institutions are not eligible to apply. The anticipated award is for five years and is contingent upon the availability of appropriated funds. The total amount of available funds to support this program is anticipated to be no more than $750,000 per year. Therefore, no applicant may request more than $750,000 in total costs (both direct and indirect costs) in the initial budget period. Subsequent budget periods may include a standard escalation factor.

The complete Request for Applications (RFA) and consultation may be obtained from:

Dr. Ralph L. Bain
Kidney and Urology Research Centers Program Director
DKUHD/NIDDK
Federal Building, Room 102
9000 Rockville Pike
Bethesda, MD 20892
Telephone: (301) 496-8218

REVIEW PROCEDURES

Applications for an award of a research center grant will be evaluated in a national competition by the NIH peer review process. Applications will be reviewed initially by a special review committee convened by the NIDDK and

reviewed subsequently by the National Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases Advisory Council.

METHOD OF APPLYING

Potential applicants are urged to submit a letter of intent to the Program Director by February 15, 1991, regarding their application. The letter of intent is nonbinding and is not a precondition for an award. The letter of intent should include the name(s) of the Principal Investigator(s), principal collaborators, a descriptive title of the proposed research center, and the organization(s) involved. Applications must be submitted using PHS Form 398 (Rev. 10/88). The RFA label contained in the application kit must be affixed to the bottom of the face page of the original copy of the application. Failure to use this label could result in delayed processing and review of the application. On line 2 of the application face page type in the title and number of this RFA.

Mail the completed application (original and four copies) to:

Application Receipt Office
Division of Research Grants
Westwood Building, Room 240
National Institutes of Health
Bethesda, MD 20892**

The special single receipt date for submissions in response to this announcement is April 2, 1991, with earliest funding September 30, 1991.

This program is described in the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance No. 93.849, Kidney, Urologic, and Hematologic Diseases Research. Awards will be made under the authority of the Public Health Service Act, Title III,Section 301 (Public Law 78-410, as amended; 42 USC 241) and administered under PHS grant policies and Federal Regulations 42 CFR Part 52 and 45 CFR Part 74. This program is not subject to the intergovernmental review requirements of Executive Order 12372 or Health Systems Agency review.

CHILD HEALTH RESEARCH CENTERS

RFA AVAILABLE: HD-91-04

P.T. 04; K.W. 0710030, 0770005, 0775000, 0785170, 0785035

National Institute of Child Health and Human Development

Application Receipt Date: April 9, 1991

The National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD) invites Center Core Grant applications for a program of Child Health Research Centers (CHRC). These Centers are intended to provide resources to speed the transfer of knowledge gained through studies in basic science to clinical applications that will benefit the health of children. This is to be accomplished by increasing the number and effectiveness of pediatric investigators who have a research grounding in basic science and the number of pediatric services that can stimulate and facilitate the application of these investigators' skills to research on pressing pediatric problems.

The information in this Request for Applications (RFA) is not identical to that in the RFA of January 1990 on this subject (HD-90-03), which is obsolete.

Background

The past few years have seen unprecedented advances in the power and speed of basic science methods applicable to investigations of inherited and acquired disease. There is a need for researchers who are skilled with these methods and are interested in applying them to clinical problems in pediatrics. The NICHD intends to help meet this need by establishing Centers in which nascent pediatric investigators can develop the appropriate technological expertise.

Objectives and Scope

Under the aegis of a CHRC grant an institution identifies and develops a scientific area or theme that is relevant to the pediatric research mission of the NICHD. It is an opportunity for institutions to build a greater capacity for developing pediatric investigators. Established investigators whose research is already funded by NIH or other competitively reviewed grants or contracts combine to establish in their institution a center of excellence in the chosen subject area. Individuals with a wide range of scientific

backgrounds, especially those with basic science orientation, are thus encouraged to interact with each other and with newly trained pediatricians just embarking on their research careers. A shared core laboratory that provides services to complement and extend the capabilities of the established investigators to facilitate the career development of new investigators may be a part of the Center. The established investigators make available their expertise and laboratory facilities that, together with the shared core laboratory comprise the laboratory resources of the Center to be utilized by junior investigators for new research projects that will enhance their basic science knowledge and skills. Support for conducting these projects is provided by the Center.

The CHRC grant may provide funds for three purposes:

1. Administration of the Center.

2. Improvements in the child health-related research program of an institution in an area of scientific excellence through the establishment and maintenance of a shared core laboratory.

3. Support for new projects, conducted by junior investigators, designed to enhance their research skills and produce preliminary data that could lead to successful competitive grant applications to the NIH or other agencies.

The novel feature of these grants is the flexibility in the use of the funds awarded for research support and career development, so that decisions about which new projects and which junior investigators are to be supported are made by the grantee institution. Both competing and non-competing continuations of a CHRC grant are contingent on demonstration of good judgment in these decisions as indicated by scientific progress, success in the initiation of new competitively awarded research grants and contracts, and the development of new pediatric investigators.

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS FOR INCLUSION OF WOMEN AND MINORITIES IN CLINICAL RESEARCH STUDIES

For projects involving clinical research, NIH requires applicants to give special attention to the inclusion of women and minorities in study populations. If women or minorities are not included in the study populations for clinical studies, a specific justification for this exclusion must be provided. Applications without such documentation will not be accepted for review.

Mechanisms of Support

CHRC awards are made to a children's hospital or to a department of pediatrics of an approved medical school that has as a primary teaching site either a general acute children's hospital or a children's program that is part of a larger medical institution. Either one must have the organizational structure, clinical pediatric specialties and subspecialties, and discrete clinical and research facilities sufficient to ensure the linkage of basic research and clinical application that will meet the purposes of the CHRC program. The Principal Investigator of the grant must be the chairperson of the department of pediatrics or the chief of the pediatric service.

The mechanism for funding of these Centers is the P30 grant that provides core support for laboratories and administrative resources applicable to a number of different research projects. Awards are for five years at a maximum level of $400,000 (direct plus indirect cost) annually and are renewable for two years.

Application Procedure

Applications must be submitted on form PHS-398 (rev. 10/88). Detailed instructions for application are available as additional information.

Additional Information

Potential applicants should request detailed information about CHRC grants before preparing an application. Information is available from:

Ephraim Y. Levin, M.D.
Medical Officer
Endocrinology, Nutrition and Growth Branch
Center for Research for Mothers and Children
National Institute of Child Health and Human Development
Room 637, Executive Plaza North
Rockville, MD 20852
Telephone: (301) 496-5593

SPECIAL CARE UNITS FOR ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE

RFA AVAILABLE: AG-91-06

P.T. 34; K.W. 0710010, 0715180, 0785035

National Institute on Aging

Letter of Intent Receipt Date: February 20, 1991
Application Receipt Date: April 10, 1991

I. INTRODUCTION

The National Institute on Aging (NIA) invites applications for cooperative agreements (U01) for social and behavioral research on the impacts of Special Care Units (SCUs). Special Care Units are defined here as specialized facilities designed for people with Alzheimer's disease (AD) in long-term care institutional settings (e.g., nursing homes, board and care, assisted living environments, adult day care). The impacts of SCUs refer to direct or indirect outcomes of this form of care on 1) persons with AD and at least one of the following: 2) family caregivers, 3) health care administrators, 4) staff, and 5) other (non-demented) persons receiving care in the same institutional settings. Studies can range from detailed ethnographic analyses of single institutional settings to highly controlled, randomized trials testing the efficacy of different components of care. This Request for Applications (RFA) is coordinated with relevant programs in the Agency for Health Care Policy and Research, National Center for Nursing Research, and National Institute of Mental Health.

II. SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES, ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS, AND BUDGETARY CONSIDERATIONS

The goal of the desired research is to provide systematic data on outcomes of care in SCUs, and on the factors and processes associated with particular outcomes. A further objective is to develop measures that can be standardized across studies and subjected to comparable analyses.

Specific eligibility requirements include:

- Proposed research must be conducted in established SCUs (i.e., those that have been in operation for at least six months).
- Investigative teams must have prior experience in conducting health care research in demented populations.
- Consideration of outcomes in persons with AD and at least one other participant in care (e.g., family members, health care administrators, staff, or other non-demented persons receiving care).

Budgetary considerations:

- This Initiative seeks to fund 4-6 research projects.
- Total costs for each project must not exceed $250,000 in the first year.

III. MECHANISM OF SUPPORT

Cooperative Agreement: The administrative and funding mechanism to be used to support these awards will be cooperative agreements between each awardee and NIA. In a cooperative agreement there is substantial programmatic involvement of the designated Program Administrator above and beyond the levels

characteristic for traditional program management of grants. The Principal Investigators and key staff, under the terms of the awards, are required to meet with the Program Administrator three times in the first year and every

six months thereafter to standardize key measurements, review progress of studies, and discuss appropriate analysis techniques.

IV. INCLUSION OF MINORITIES AND WOMEN

For projects involving clinical research, NIH requires applicants to give special attention to the inclusion of women and minorities in study populations. If women or minorities are not included or adequately represented in the study populations for clinical studies, a specific justification for this exclusion or inadequate representation must be provided. Applications without such documentation will not be accepted for review.

V. REVIEW PROCEDURES

Applications will be received by the NIH Division of Research Grants and will be assigned to the NIA. Responsive applications will be assigned to a special NIA review group.

VI. METHOD OF APPLYING

A letter of intent, while not required, is requested by February 20, 1991. The full RFA with additional information about research questions and methods, eligibility and review criteria, and detailed application procedures, should be requested from the contact person listed at the end of this announcement. The deadline for receipt of applications is April 10, 1991.

VII. STAFF CONTACT

A complete copy of the RFA may be obtained from the program coordinator:

Marcia G. Ory, Ph.D.
BSR/NIA/NIH
Building 31, Room 5C35
Bethesda, MD 20892
Telephone: (301) 496-3136

ONGOING PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENTS

ACADEMIC RESEARCH ENHANCEMENT AWARD

PA: PA-91-22

P.T. 34; K.W. 0710030, 1014006

National Institutes of Health

Application Receipt Date: June 21, 1991

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) is making a special effort to stimulate research in educational institutions that provide the baccalaureate training for a significant number of our nation's research scientists but that historically have not been major recipients of NIH support. Since Fiscal Year (FY) 1985, Congressional appropriations for the NIH have included funds for this initiative, which NIH has implemented through the Academic Research Enhancement Award (AREA) Program.

This award is designed to enhance the research environment of educational institutions that have not been traditional recipients of NIH research funds. The AREA funds are intended to support new research projects or expand ongoing research activities proposed by faculty members of these institutions in areas related to the health sciences. Because it is anticipated that AREA funds will be available next year, the NIH is inviting grant applications for the FY 1992 competition for AREA grants.

Eligibility requirements of the AREA Program include the following:

Applicant Institutions

- All domestic institutions offering baccalaureate or advanced degrees in the sciences related to health are eligible, except those that have received an NIH Biomedical Research Support Grant (BRSG) of $20,000 or more per year for four or more years during the period from FY 1984 through FY 1990.

- Health professional schools (e.g., schools of medicine, dentistry, nursing, osteopathy, pharmacy, veterinary medicine, public health, allied health, and optometry), as well as organizationally discrete campuses of a university system, are eligible if they meet the above criterion.

- Multiple applications proposing different research projects may be submitted by an applicant institution.

Applicant Principal Investigators

- Must not have active research grant support (including an AREA) from either NIH or the Alcohol, Drug Abuse, and Mental Health Administration (ADAMHA) at the applicant institution at the time of award of an AREA grant.

- May not submit a regular NIH or ADAMHA research grant application for essentially the same project as a pending AREA application.

- Are expected to conduct the majority of their research at their own institution, although limited access to special facilities or equipment at another institution is permitted.

- May not be awarded more than one AREA grant at a time nor be awarded a second AREA grant to continue the research initiated under the first AREA grant.

Those in doubt about eligibility should consult their institution's Office of Sponsored Research, or the Director, Special Programs and Initiatives (Building 31, Room 5B44, NIH, Bethesda, MD 20892, telephone 301-496-1968).

Funding decisions will be based on the proposed research project's scientific merit and relevance to NIH programs, and the institution's contribution to the undergraduate preparation of doctoral-level health professionals. Among projects of essentially equivalent scientific merit and program relevance, preference will be given to those submitted by institutions that have granted baccalaureate degrees to 25 or more individuals who, during the period 1980-1990, obtained academic or professional doctoral degrees in the health related sciences.

AREAs are awarded on a competitive basis. Applicants may request support for up to a total of $75,000 for direct costs (plus applicable indirect costs) for a period not to exceed 36 months (maximum request $35,000 in direct costs for a single year). Although this award is non-renewable, it will enable qualified individual scientists within the eligible institutions to receive support for feasibility studies, pilot studies, and other small-scale research projects preparatory to seeking more substantial funding from other NIH research grant programs.

Applications for this award will be accepted under the application submission procedures of the Division of Research Grants (DRG) of NIH. Grant applications must be prepared and submitted on Form PHS 398 (Rev. 10/88, Reprinted 9/89). Applicants must obtain the abbreviated format and simplified instructions from the Office of Grants Inquiries (see address below). These instructions must be followed in preparing an application. The receipt date is June 21, 1991.

Those individuals and institutions meeting eligibility requirements and wishing to receive further information and/or application materials should write to:

AREA
Office of Grants Inquiries
Division of Research Grants
National Institutes of Health
Westwood Building, Room 449
Bethesda, MD 20892
Telephone: (301) 496-7441

**THE MAILING ADDRESS GIVEN FOR SENDING APPLICATIONS TO THE DIVISION OF RESEARCH GRANTS OR CONTACTING PROGRAM STAFF IN THE WESTWOOD BUILDING IS THE CENTRAL MAILING ADDRESS FOR THE NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH. APPLICANTS WHO USE EXPRESS MAIL OR A COURIER SERVICE ARE ADVISED TO FOLLOW THE CARRIER'S REQUIREMENTS FOR SHOWING A STREET ADDRESS. THE ADDRESS FOR THE WESTWOOD BUILDING IS: 5333 Westbard Avenue
Bethesda, Maryland 20816

*U.S.G.P.O:1991-281-826:20030