



The Stanley Medical Research Institute

TREATMENT TRIAL APPLICATION: FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What kind of treatment trials does SMRI support?

The purpose of this program is to facilitate the direct testing of new treatments for schizophrenia and bipolar disorder in academic centers and under contract with treatment trial organizations. If the treatment trial will be conducted by a pharmaceutical company, it may be funded under the [Drug Development Program](#).

Please check the [List of Awarded Treatment Trials](#) prior to completing your application. If SMRI is already supporting trials with the compound you propose, we are unlikely to support an additional trial until results of the first trial are available. If the trial with the compound you are proposing has been completed with positive results, we may support follow-up trials of the same compound.

SMRI is currently supporting treatment trials in the following project areas:

- Off-label use of existing drugs
- Natural substances, including:
 - herbal medications
 - nutraceuticals
 - non-western traditional medicines

SMRI has established new criteria for studies of botanical extracts. To review the new requirements, click on [Safety Criteria](#)

Who is eligible to apply?

Applications will be accepted from researchers in any country except where prohibited by United States law. The skills and academic experience of the applicant will be considered, but no particular academic degree is required.

How are applications submitted, and when are the deadlines?

Applications must be submitted electronically on the SMRI website by 11:59 p.m. Eastern Standard Time on October 1 of each year.

What is the maximum award given?

The maximum award amount \$300,000 per year for up to three years, depending on the stage of development of compounds to be tested and the type of trial required.

May I include indirect costs on my budget?

Yes, indirect costs of up to 15 percent may be included as part of the total grant budget, i.e., the total direct and indirect costs for each of three years cannot exceed \$300,000.

What may I include in my budget?

You should request whatever funds you will need to conduct the proposed research. This may include money for salaries, supplies, laboratory costs, patient reimbursement, testing, etc. We are flexible on what applicants may include. We look at the budget vis a vis the proposed research, but we also like economy.

What should I include in my study design and summary proposal/outline section?

Please print out the instructions for completing the treatment trial grant application before you start. Keep in mind that the submission categories should not be considered overly rigid. The study design section is used by most investigators to concentrate on the design of the study per se, i.e., issues such as paradigm (parallel, double-blind, randomized, etc.), number of patients, statistical analysis, etc. The summary proposal/outline section is often used by investigators to address wider issues including introduction, background, rationale, discussion of previous literature, etc.

How does the review process work?

Treatment trial grant applications are reviewed by at least two peer reviewers and/or by members of SMRI's Scientific Advisory Committee. A priority score is compiled from all reviewers, and the applications are ranked according to merit.

How abbreviated should my CV be?

CV's should be no more than five pages in length.

What do the members of the review committee really like?

We like economy. Ask for what you need and no more. No applicant has enhanced his or her standing by padding the budget. On the other hand, if you need the full amount, ask for it. We evaluate the budget simultaneously with the scientific content in what is essentially a cost-benefit analysis. You can attach one or two reprints if needed to explain a new technique or provide preliminary data, but for the majority of applications, they are not necessary. If we need more information, we will ask for it.

When will I find out if my application is funded?

Our complete application review cycle is approximately 90–120 days from deadline to notification.

If my application is selected for funding, when can I expect my funding to begin?

If your application is selected for funding, you will be required to complete and return a grant agreement along with two other accounting forms, a copy of the IRB or Ethical Committee's approval letter, and a copy of the approved patient informed consent form for your grant project. Awards are tentatively scheduled for payment in February, pending receipt of the required documents.

Whom should I contact if I have additional questions?

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