

PFIZER'S CENTERS FOR THERAPEUTIC INNOVATION

REQUESTS PROPOSALS FOR THERAPEUTIC TARGETS

Deadline: October 21, 2019



Pfizer's Centers for Therapeutic Innovation, or CTI, is a unique joint drug discovery model focused on collaborating with leading academic medical centers to translate and transform concepts into breakthroughs that change patients' lives

CTI Collaborations Include

- Funding for project-specific research
- Hands-on collaboration from dedicated Pfizer drug-development experts
- Access to scientific/technological expertise and infrastructure at Pfizer
- Potential for in-licensing by Pfizer, which would include milestone and royalty payments
- Publishing rights
- Opportunity for involvement in CTI's Foundation Alliances

Pre-proposal Submission Process

Submission entails a non-confidential 2-3 page overview of the target, mechanism, evidence for disease linkage, and the proposed therapeutic drug. At a high level, the pre-proposal should suggest how the therapeutic hypothesis could be tested in the clinic.

For Information

All researchers and clinicians whose work meets these criteria are invited to apply. **Please submit non-confidential pre-proposals to your Technology Transfer Office by October 21st.** For further information about submitting a pre-proposal, please contact Dhiraj Hans at dhiraj.hans@unimelb.edu.au

For further information about CTI areas of focus, please contact Anand Gautam at anand.gautam@pfizer.com

Areas of Interest and Targets/Pathways of Focus:

1. Opportunities related to **tissue-resident immunity** with application in the fields of **inflammation, fibrosis, autoimmunity and oncology**:

- o Novel molecular or cellular targets with tissue-restricted expression or occurrence that modulate inflammation, immune homeostasis (i.e. tolerance or tumorigenesis)
- o Regulation of non-classical and non-circulating immune cells in human disease progression or prevention
- o Role of tissue-resident macrophages (i.e., synovial, alveolar, adipose etc.) in inflammation, immune homeostasis, or tissue repair
- o Mechanisms of tissue-specific targeting or localization of immune cells and/or therapeutic agents in select peripheral compartments such as gut, liver, skin, and lung

2. Opportunities related to **DNA damage response and replicative stress** with application in the fields of **oncology, immunology, and rare diseases**:

- o Chromatin and DNA damage response modulators in the context of nuclear or spatial organization (biochemical condensates)
- o Innovative targets identified via synthetic lethal, chemical biology or other approaches, including DNA repair enzymes, scaffolding factors and nucleic acid targets (R-loops, G-quadruplexes)
- o Senescence, translesion synthesis and other mutagenic repair processes

3. Novel strategies targeting the cause of **repeat expansion diseases**, including:

- o Those that target the mutant gene
- o Nucleic acid-binding and other small molecules that halt or reverse the somatic expansion of the repeating DNA sequences
- o Novel mechanisms downstream of the pathological repeat, excluding mAbs that clear protein aggregation
- o DNA repair or maintenance mechanisms affecting repeat expansions