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Two types of supplements are published by the respective awarding units. Those printed on yellow paper concern contracts: solicitations of sources and announcement of availability of requests for proposals. Those printed on blue paper concern invitations for grant applications in well-defined scientific areas to accomplish specific program purposes.

Have You Moved?
If you present address differs from that shown on the address label, please send your new address to: Grants and Contract Guide Distribution Center, National Institutes of Health, Room B3BN10, Building 31, Bethesda, Maryland 20205, and attach your address label to your letter. Prompt notice of your change of address will prevent your name from being removed from our mailing list.
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KEYWORD THESAURUS

Beginning with this issue of the NIH Guide for Grants and Contracts, the announcements are coded to identify areas of interest as listed in the Keyword Thesaurus, a project funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities and the National Science Foundation. NIH has agreed to participate in the project on an experimental basis. A revised version of the Thesaurus is expected to be available by summer of 1984; copies may be ordered from the National Technical Information Service, 5285 Port Royal Road, Springfield, Virginia 22161. The current NTIS Order No. is PB83-211961.

For more information about the project you may write to:

Mr. John A. Rodman  
Office of Sponsored Projects  
University of Texas at Dallas  
P.O. Box 830688  
Richardson, Texas 75083-0688.

or call Dr. John C. James at the National Institutes of Health at 301-496-7795. Your comments may be addressed either to Dr. James or to Mr. Rodman.

For those who may not have a copy of the 1982 Keyword Thesaurus, the NIH relevant portion is excerpted in the Appendix of this issue. The listing of terms related to biomedical research consists of some terms from the 1982 Thesaurus and terms added by NIH over the past few months. As displayed in individual announcements, the initials "P.T." denote "program " and "K.W." identifies one or more key words corresponding to the subject matter of the program.

The purpose of using the codes and terms of the Keyword Thesaurus is to facilitate distribution of announcements and Requests for Applications (RFAs) to faculty and staff members who have interests in the specific areas listed.
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08  Cultural Outreach
10  Curriculum Development
12  Demonstration
14  Development
16  Dissemination of Information
18  Equipment
20  Exhibitions, Collections, Performances
22  Fellowships
24  General Operating Support
26  Internships
28  Materials Acquisition (Books, Tapes, Etc.)
30  Preservation/Restoration
32  Publication
34  Research
36  Resources (Shared/Non-Acquisition)
38  Service Delivery Programs
40  Student Support (Including Dissertation Support)
42  Symposia, Conferences, Workshops, Institutes, Seminars
44  Training
46  Translations/Editing
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NOTICE

NATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON SCIENTIFIC AND PUBLIC ISSUES
THAT ARISE FROM HEALTH RESEARCH INVOLVING VERTEBRATE ANIMALS

P.T. 42; K.W. 0201011, 0701028

A two-day national symposium sponsored by the National Institutes of Health (NIH) will be held at the following location:

The Auditorium
National Academy of Sciences
2100 C Street, NW
Washington, DC

The scheduled dates are April 11-12, 1984. The symposium will convene at 9:00 a.m. each day. The purpose of this national meeting is to develop a broad consensus of understanding and acceptance among the research community as well as the public at large on the imperatives in use of laboratory animals in health research and related animal welfare issues. The symposium will also address Public Health Service (PHS) concerns, policies, and procedures for ensuring humane care and use of laboratory animals involved in health research supported by the PHS.

There will be no registration fee but advance registration no later than Friday, March 30, 1984 is strongly recommended. Those who do not register in advance will be admitted only on a space-available basis. A registration form appears on the last page of this GUIDE.

No parking space is available in the immediate vicinity of the National Academy of Sciences building. The nearest public parking facilities are located on 20th Street, NW between E and F Streets (Colonial Parking), and at 23rd Street and Virginia Avenue, NW (Columbia Plaza). The closest Metro Station (subway) is the Foggy Bottom Station at 23rd and I Streets.

Hotel reservations should be made privately and well in advance by those who plan to attend the symposium.

For further information, contact:

Office for Protection from Research Risks
Building 31 - Room 4B09
National Institutes of Health
Bethesda, Maryland 20205

Telephone: (301) 496-7005
NOTICE

NIH/FDA REGIONAL WORKSHOPS - PROTECTION OF HUMAN SUBJECTS

P.T. 42; K.W. 0701028

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) and the Food and Drug Administration (FDA are sponsoring a series of workshops on responsibilities of researchers, institutional review boards, and institutional officials for the protection of human subjects in biomedical and behavioral research. The workshops are open to everyone with an interest in research. The meetings should be of special interest to those persons currently serving or about to begin serving as a member of an Institutional Review Board (IRB).

For specific program and registration information, contact one of the individuals listed below or write to:

Roberta H. Garfinkle
Office for Protection from Research Risks
National Institutes of Health
Building 31 - Room 4B09
9000 Rockville Pike
Bethesda, Maryland 20205

NIH/FDA REGIONAL WORKSHOPS

FY 1984

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
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</table>
| March 2    | Konover Hotel
5445 Collins Avenue
Miami Beach, Florida 33140
Telephone: (305) 865-1500
or (800) 327-0555 | Mr. Andrew Behrman
Research Coordinator
Mt. Sinai Medical Center
4300 Alton Road
Miami Beach, Florida 33140
Telephone: (305) 674-2197 |
| March 15-16| Auditorium
Center for Continuing Education
Fifth Floor, Nicholson Tower
Oklahoma Children's Memorial Hospital
940 NE 13th Street
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73190 | Mr. Steve Pulik
Program Development Specialist
University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center
P.O.B. 26901, Library Building
Room 115
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73190
Telephone: (405) 271-2090 |
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<tr>
<td>April 9</td>
<td>The Hyatt Regency New Orleans</td>
<td>Dr. William Gibson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>500 Poydras Plaza</td>
<td>Chairman, IRB</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>New Orleans, Louisiana 70140</td>
<td>Office for Research</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Telephone: (504) 561-1234</td>
<td>LSU School of Dentistry</td>
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<td>1100 Florida Avenue</td>
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<td>Telephone: (504) 948-8526</td>
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<td>April 25</td>
<td>Sheraton Inn</td>
<td>Ms. Ruth Clark</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>36th and Chestnut Streets</td>
<td>Research Administrator</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19104</td>
<td>University of Pennsylvania</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Telephone: (215) 387-8000</td>
<td>3451 Walnut Street</td>
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<td>Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19174</td>
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<td>Telephone: (215) 898-7293</td>
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<td>April 27</td>
<td>Mariott Inn</td>
<td>Dr. Dale Cowan</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4277 W. 150th Street &amp; I-71</td>
<td>Clinical Professor of Epidemiology and Community Health</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Cleveland, Ohio 44125</td>
<td>Department of Oncology</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Telephone: (216) 252-5333</td>
<td>Marymount Hospital</td>
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<td>12300 McCracken Road</td>
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<td>Garfield Heights, Ohio 44125</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Telephone: (216) 581-0500</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 1</td>
<td>Dana Farber Cancer Institute</td>
<td>Mrs. Joan Rachlin</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>44 Binney Street</td>
<td>Executive Director</td>
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<td>Boston, Massachusetts 02115</td>
<td>Public Responsibility in Medicine and Research (PRIM&amp;R)</td>
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<td>Telephone: (617) 423-4112</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 21-22</td>
<td>Minneapolis Plaza</td>
<td>Dr. Jane Boyajian</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>315 Nicollet Mall</td>
<td>President</td>
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<td>Minneapolis, Minnesota 55401</td>
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<td>Telephone: (612) 332-4000</td>
<td>2023 Milwaukee Avenue</td>
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<td>Ms. Elaine S. Levine</td>
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<td>Coordinator, IRB</td>
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<td>St. Paul Ramsey Medical Center</td>
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Further Information to be Announced
ANNOUNCEMENT

AVAILABILITY OF REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS: RFA 84-AI-06

COOPERATIVE STUDY OF IMMUNOTHERAPY IN ADULT ASTHMATICS

P.T. 34; K.W. 1200660, 1200670

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF ALLERGY AND INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Letter of Intent Receipt Date: March 15, 1984
Application Receipt Date: April 15, 1984

The National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID) invites applications from investigators interested in participating with the NIAID in a Cooperative Agreement Program designed as a multicenter clinical study seeking to assess the effectiveness of immunotherapy in the management of asthma in adults.

I. BACKGROUND

Since its introduction in 1911, immunotherapy, also called injection treatment, desensitization or hyposensitization, has been used as an aid in the management of certain allergic disorders including asthma, hay fever and reactions to insect stings. It has become standard treatment for patients with rhinitis, allergic to certain airborne antigens especially pollens and molds, whose symptoms do not respond to medication and/or avoidance measures and for patients at risk of having severe reactions to the venoms of certain stinging insects. However, the efficacy of immunotherapy for the treatment of asthma has not been conclusively shown in spite of numerous studies. The reported success rates range from 100 percent to 0 percent depending on the antigen, dose, length of therapy and patient population.

In the past decade reliable objective measures have become available to define and monitor asthma. In the proposed studies, the antigens to be used will be accessible preparations of house dust mite, ragweed and timothy grass pollens which will be compared for content and potency with reagents, currently available for research activities, which are candidates for adoption by the International Union of Immunological Societies (IUIS) as standards. These reagent standards will be supplied by the NIAID.

II. OBJECTIVES AND SCOPE

This RFA is based on the premise that a scientifically sound protocol can be designed to determine if immunotherapy can be beneficial in the treatment of adult asthmatics whose asthma is triggered by and who are specifically allergic to the listed antigens.
The purpose of this RFA is to solicit applications from qualified investigators interested in developing and implementing double-blind placebo-controlled clinical trials to determine the effectiveness of immunotherapy in the management of specific allergen-induced asthma in adults.

Although the final protocol will be developed by consensus among participants during Phase I, applications submitted should contain a plan which could be considered as a model. Proposals for this model should include size of the population required for the study and justification for this size. Applicants need not submit a model for each antigen but may select that or those for which it is believed the institution possesses resources to accomplish the study goal. In order to guide potential investigators in determining the likelihood of their having the requisite study population, the minimal inclusion and exclusion criteria have been proposed and are available in the RFA.

III. STAFF CONTACT

For further information, and a copy of the RFA contact:

Dr. Judith G. Massicot
Program Officer
Immunology, Allergic and Immunologic Diseases Program
National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases
National Institutes of Health
Building 31 - Room 7A50
Bethesda, Maryland 20205

Telephone: (301) 496-1886
ANNOUNCEMENT

AVAILABILITY OF REQUEST FOR COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT APPLICATIONS: RFA 84-HD-01

COORDERATIVE CLINICAL COMPARISON OF CHORION VILLUS SAMPLING AND AMNIOCENTESIS

P.T. 36; K.W. 1200180, 1200370

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF CHILD HEALTH AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

Application Receipt Date: April 15, 1984

The National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD) invites applications from investigators willing to participate with the NICHD under a Cooperative Agreement Program in a multicenter cooperative clinical study comparing the safety and accuracy of chorion villus sampling (CVS) with amniocentesis.

This clinical study is planned to consist of four sequential phases in which the experience and results from each phase will determine whether or not, and in what manner, the next phase will be undertaken. Phasing of this study is envisioned as follows:

Phase I. Development of a protocol by consensus among the participating centers, preparation of an operations manual, and training of personnel (6 months).

Phase II. Initiation of the project in participating centers.

Phase III. (a) Recruitment of additional centers and completion of enrollment (28 months).

(b) Follow-up of enrolled patients (8 months).

Phase IV. Data analysis and reporting (12 months) to be done in cooperation with a Data Coordinating Center being sought under a separate competition.

The mechanism of support for this study will be a cooperative agreement. Additional information and copies of a more detailed RFA which outlines the clinical center requirements for participation in the proposed study and the method for applying should be obtained from:
Felix de la Cruz, M.D.
Medical Director
Mental Retardation and Development Disabilities Branch
Center for Research for Mothers and Children
National Institute of Child Health and Human Development
National Institutes of Health
Landow Building - Room 7C16
Bethesda, Maryland 20205

Telephone: 301 - 496-1383

The deadline for receipt of applications by the NIH Division of Research Grants is April 15, 1984. Logistics and managerial practicality dictate that only applicant institutions in the United States and Canada are eligible.
NOTICE

COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS FOR COOPERATIVE GROUP OUTREACH PROGRAMS

P.T. 34; K.W. 0403004, 1200280, 1200950

NATIONAL CANCER INSTITUTE

The Division of Cancer Prevention and Control (DCPC), National Cancer Institute (NCI) plans to issue a Request for Application (RFA) directed to NCI-supported clinical cooperative groups for cooperative agreements to strengthen the cancer control programs of currently participating cooperative groups and to encourage the establishment of outreach programs in additional qualified clinical cooperative groups. The program will utilize the existing structure and expertise of the clinical cooperative groups and their members to involve more community physicians in cancer control/clinical research activities, and will make state-of-the-art cancer management available to cancer patients treated in the community by promoting educational opportunities for community oncologists through participation in cooperative group meetings and cooperative group treatment protocols.

Applications will be accepted from only the 18 cooperative groups supported by the Division of Cancer Treatment (DCT). Copies of the RFA will be provided directly to these groups. Cooperative agreement awards will be made for a project period of three years. NCI anticipates making five to eight awards. A total of $5 million has been set aside to fund the awards the initial year.

Interested individuals may obtain copies of the complete RFA and additional information from:

Dorothy MacFarlane, M.D.
Division of Cancer Prevention and Control
National Cancer Institute
Blair Building - Room 7A05
Bethesda, Maryland 20205

Telephone: (301) 427-8708
ANNOUNCEMENT

AVAILABILITY OF REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS: RFA

TREATMENT STRATEGIES IN SCHIZOPHRENIA COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT PROGRAM

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF MENTAL HEALTH

Application Receipt Date: March 1, 1984

The National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) is launching the Treatment Strategies in Schizophrenia Cooperative Agreement Program to investigate the efficacy of three drug maintenance strategies and their relationship to two psychosocial management strategies in the treatment of schizophrenic patients. Despite improvement in the treatment of schizophrenia during the past two decades, the illness still remains a significant burden in the mental health system.

The purpose of this Request for Applications is to seek cooperative agreement applications from institutions to participate in a common protocol study involving collaboration among investigators at awardee institutions and NIMH staff.

The goals of the Treatment Strategies in Schizophrenia Cooperative Agreement Program are to test whether it is possible to:
- Maximize the benefits of drug treatment and reduce the associated risks by using new drug treatment strategies based on dosage reduction.
- Further reduce risk of relapse and enable the schizophrenic patient to improve independent social functioning and participation in family life by using a family management intervention.

The benefits of medication in the long term treatment of schizophrenia, e.g., reduced risk of relapse, reduction of psychopathology, are well established. However, concerns about the related risk of tardive dyskinesia and the relative lack of improvement of social functioning have led to attempts to improve upon standard pharmacologic treatment.

The proposed multicenter collaborative study will compare standard pharmacologic treatment with two strategies for dose reduction. The study will also test the usefulness of therapeutic enhancement through psychosocial management strategies because dosage reduction alone increases the risk of relapse. The hypothesis is that the addition of a psychosocial strategy will offset the increased risk of relapse incurred by reducing dosage and, in addition, provide improvement in social function.

Copies of the complete RFA may be obtained from:

Ms. Jacqueline Dobson
Parklawn Building - Room 10C-06
5600 Fishers Lane
Rockville, Maryland 20857

Telephone: (301) 443-3524
ANNOUNCEMENT

CANCER EDUCATION PROGRAM

P.T.  16;  K.W.  0403004

NATIONAL CANCER INSTITUTE

Application Receipt Dates: June 1, October 1, February 1

The Cancer Education Program, R25 grants, (formerly Professional Oncology Education Program or Clinical Cancer Education Program) announces the continuing receipt of grant applications. Receipt dates are: June 1, October 1, and February 1. Those interested in preparing a grant application should request a copy of the most recent Program Guidelines, including the review criteria, by contacting:

Olga G. Joly, D.D.S., Sc.D.
Program Director
Cancer Education Program, CTB, DCPC
Blair Building - Room 722
9000 Rockville Pike
Bethesda, Maryland 20205

Telephone: (301) 427-8855
NOTICE

CHANGE OF TITLE FOR NICHD MAJOR RESEARCH PROGRAMS

P.T. 34; K.W. 1201040, 1201070, 0701027

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF CHILD HEALTH AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

In order to provide consistency in nomenclature for all Research Center programs supported by the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD), the official designation for the Major Research Programs funded by the Center for Research for Mothers and Children under the Specialized Research Grant (P50) mechanism will be changed to Perinatal Emphasis Research Centers (PERC). Consistent with the Congressional endorsement that led to the establishment of the original Major Research Programs, the emphasis in the PERC Program will continue to be on hypothesis-testing multidisciplinary studies directed toward successful pregnancy outcome and to infant survival and well-being. All PERC grants will be organized around problem/need themes in perinatology as designated by NICHD. These grants are not intended to support service, survey, or demonstration projects. However, all PERCs will continue to be established in locations where research can be coordinated with existing programs of health care to facilitate rapid translation of new scientific knowledge into improved health care delivery.
REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS: RFA

84-HD-02

PERINATAL EMPHASIS RESEARCH CENTER - PERINATAL PHARMACOLOGY AND TOXICOLOGY

P.T. 04; K.W. 1201040, 0701038, 1007009

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF CHILD HEALTH AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

Application Receipt Date: April 15, 1984

I. BACKGROUND

The Pregnancy and Perinatology Section (CNPP)-Clinical Nutrition and Early Development Branch of the Center for Research for Mothers and Children (CRMC) of the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD) invites grant applications (P-50) for a Perinatal Emphasis Research Center (PERC) in perinatal pharmacology and toxicology. By issuing this Request for Applications (RFA), CRMC is indicating its wish to encourage investigator interest in a specific research area important to its mission and currently not represented in the PERC program.

A PERC grant is used to promote and support multidisciplinary research efforts in areas where (a) knowledge gaps are not being sufficiently addressed by ongoing research, or (b) there are needs to stimulate and intensify efforts in promising research areas. These grants are for the support of hypothesis testing research efforts; they are not intended to support service, survey, or demonstration projects. Research areas for PERC grants have been and will continue to be identified by CRMC in consultation with outside advisors. Through the Perinatal Emphasis Research Center programs for mothers and infants, the Institute has undertaken concerted biomedical and behavioral research efforts directed toward infant survival and well being. The PERC's are organized around problem/need themes and are established where research can be coordinated with existing programs of health care to insure the rapid assimilation of new scientific knowledge into health care delivery. PERC's are located throughout the United States and presently are addressing issues in high risk pregnancies (diabetes, hypertension), prevention of prematurity, and fetal hypoxia.

This program is described in the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance No. 13.865, Research for Mothers and Children. Awards will be made under the authority of the Public Health Service Act, Section 301 (42 USC241) and administered under PHS grant policies and Federal Regulations 42 CFR Part 52 and 45 CFR Part 74. This program is not subject to Health Systems Agency review.
Perinatal pharmacology and toxicology has been designated an area of high priority for research support by NICHD. The fetus in utero and the newborn in the intensive care nursery receive many medications; however, the recognition and identification of side effects caused by them is limited. Observed abnormalities are generally attributed to the medical problems that the high risk infant presents. A good understanding of the pharmacology and toxicology of the perinatal period when rapid growth and development occurs is necessary to insure better medical care and decreased incidence of serious complications which may be caused by prescribed therapies.

II. RESEARCH GOALS AND SCOPE

This PERC is proposed to deal with the impact of drugs and chemicals, in vivo and/or in vitro, on maternal, fetal, and neonatal tissues. Investigators are invited to propose studies including neonatal pharmacology, general toxicology, and teratogenesis in both humans and experimental animals. The role of genetic composition, nutrition, duration and stage of gestation, presence of acquired disease in mother and/or developing fetus, and other factors on drug disposition and effect are of interest. The impact of normal and abnormal placental development on the distribution and effect of pharmacological agents in mother and fetus and on placental transfer may be considered. The impact of fetal exposures on neonatal responses; and short- and long-term differential consequences of exposures during labor, delivery, the postpartum period, or during lactation are areas in which studies would be welcomed. Studies of changes in dose-response relationships, route of administration, binding and distribution, and organ-specific metabolism and excretion would be of interest, as are the intracellular distribution and action of agents. The above considerations may encompass both maternal drug administration and therapy and/or treatment of the fetus. Development of methodologies to enable these studies is encouraged including non-invasive procedures, micro-analytical techniques, and methods which minimize risks to the maternal-fetal unit.

III. MECHANISM OF SUPPORT

Perinatal Emphasis Research Center grants (P-50) will be supported through the customary grant-in-aid mechanism. Awards will be made initially for a period of not less than three years and not more than five years, with an option for renewal. To be eligible for award as a PERC, an application should conform to the guidelines for center grants which may be requested from NICHD staff (contact Dr. Charlotte Catz, 301-496-5575).

The receipt date for this single-competition announcement is April 15, 1984. It is anticipated that any award made under this announcement will have a start date on or before September 30, 1984. NICHD contemplates making a single award and has set aside $500,000 for the first year support.

IV. REVIEW PROCEDURES AND CRITERIA

Applications submitted in response to this RFA will be evaluated for scientific merit by an NICHD research review committee. A site visit is not a prerequisite for review. The second level review will be made by the National Advisory Child Health and Human Development Council.

Factors to be considered in evaluating a PERC grant application are:
1. Responsiveness of the research program to the mission of the CRMC.

2. Significance of the proposed research program to the overall goal of the PERC.

3. Suitability of the program's central theme for a cooperative research effort.

4. Multidisciplinary scope of the program and provision for coordinating the research projects and core units.

5. Leadership and scientific stature of the program director and his/her ability to meet the program's demands of time and effort.

The review of the projects and core units will consider:

1. Scientific merit of each project and the relation of the project to the central theme of the overall program.

2. Technical merit and justification of each core unit.

3. Qualifications, experience, and commitment of the investigators responsible for the research projects or core units and their ability to devote the required time and effort to the program.

4. Appropriateness of the total budget and budgetary requests for the individual projects and core units.

5. As appropriate, the adequacy of the means proposed for protecting against risks to human subjects, animals, and/or environment.

6. Participation of a suitable number of responsible, experienced investigators.

7. Academic and physical environment as it bears on patients, space, and equipment, and on the potential for interaction with scientists from other departments and institutions.

8. Arrangements for internal quality control of ongoing research, the allocation of funds, day-to-day management, contractual agreements, and internal communication and cooperation among the investigators in the program.

9. Presence of an administrative and organizational structure conducive to attaining the objectives of the proposed program.

10. Institutional commitment to the requirements of the program.

V. METHOD OF APPLYING

Applications must be submitted on form NIH-398 which includes form HHS-596, Protection of Human Subjects. The conventional presentation format for regular
research grant applications should be used, with care taken to fulfill the points identified under review criteria. Applications will be reviewed by NIH staff for responsiveness to the RFA. Applications judged to be non-responsive will be returned.

The phrase "PERC-Perinatal Pharmacology and Toxicology, 84-HD-02" should be typed in item 2 on front page of the grant application form. The original and four copies of the application should be sent or delivered to:

Application Receipt Office  
Division of Research Grants  
National Institutes of Health  
Westwood Building - Room 240  
Bethesda, Maryland 20205

Two copies should be sent or delivered to:

Associate Director for Scientific Review  
National Institute for Child Health  
and Human Development  
Landow Building - Room 6C08  
Bethesda, Maryland 20205

Investigators wishing to apply for a PERC grant (P-50) are encouraged (but not required) to submit a letter of intent to the Director of the Center for Research for Mothers and Children by March 1, 1984. The letter of intent, not to exceed three single-spaced typewritten pages, should outline the proposed program of research, name the principal investigators of the individual projects, and state the qualifications of the applicant institution. It should be submitted to:

Dr. Sumner J. Yaffe  
Director  
Center for Research for Mothers and Children  
National Institute of Child Health  
and Human Development  
Landow Building - Room 7C03  
Bethesda, Maryland 20205

The letter of intent will be reviewed to determine the proposal's appropriateness for the NICHD's PERC program and whether the institution appears to meet the eligibility requirements for center status. Detailed guidelines are found in "NICHD Research Centers Programs" which can be obtained from the NICHD staff contact. Staff will review the letter and contact each applicant.

For further information, potential applicants may write to Director, CRMC or call Dr. Charlotte Catz, Head, Pregnancy and Perinatology Section, Clinical Nutrition and Early Development Branch, Center for Research for Mothers and Children, National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, on (301) 496-5575.
ANNOUNCEMENT

AVAILABILITY OF REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS: RFA

84-DE-03

ORAL HEALTH AND BEHAVIOR RESEARCH CENTERS

P.T. 34, 04; K.W. 0701041, 1200080, 0701011

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF DENTAL RESEARCH

Application Receipt Date: June 15, 1984

The National Institute of Dental Research (NIDR) invites applications for one or more new clinical research centers studying linkages between behaviors and oral health. The NIDR will initiate support for multidisciplinary centers of research excellence in an effort to accelerate scientific progress related to oral health and behavior, as well as to develop an appropriate scientific foundation for intervention studies aimed toward improving oral disease prevention and treatment.

The main objective of the Oral Health and Behavior Research Centers will be to conduct fundamental and applied multidisciplinary research directed toward determining behavioral and social aspects of oral disease epidemiology, etiology, prevention, diagnosis, or treatment. Specifically, the centers should develop research programs directed toward addressing at least two of the following broad objectives:

1. Identify behavioral and social risk factors associated with the incidence and prevalence of caries, periodontal diseases, congenital or acquired craniofacial anomalies, temporomandibular joint dysfunction, or other related oral diseases or conditions, as well as socio-behavioral or psychophysiological factors associated with the development or progression of such diseases/conditions.

2. Develop behaviorally based interventions aimed toward establishing at least several of the following:
   - earlier, more cost-effective, or otherwise improved approaches aiding in the diagnosis of oral diseases or conditions.
   - improved approaches for identifying or intercepting oral diseases at an earlier stage and for reducing negative functional or psychosocial impacts associated with oral diseases/conditions.

This program is described in the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance No. 13.844, Pain Control and Behavioral Studies. 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 the PHS grant policies and Federal Regulations 42 CFR Part 52 and 45 CFR Part 74. This program is not subject to Health Systems Agency review.
- improved approaches for producing sustained adherence to preventive or therapeutic regimens.

- improved behavioral approaches for increasing both the acceptability and health-enhancing impacts of dental services.

3. Evaluate the qualitative and quantitative impacts of the interventions developed, assessing both the costs and outcomes of the methodologies employed and their specific impacts upon measures of oral health status (including, where feasible, both short-term and long-term measures of oral health status).

The substance of each research program may vary according to local expertise, interest, resources, and recruitment possibilities, but the projects developed by each center must relate to the above objectives. Applicants should attempt to develop a unique program which is complementary to, rather than duplicative of, ongoing research. The Institution must be willing to make a commitment of resources and staff to ensure the development, operation, and function of the proposed center.

Copies of the complete RFA and additional information may be obtained from:

Dr. Patricia Bryant  
Craniofacial Anomalies, Pain Control and Behavioral Research Branch  
Extramural Programs  
National Institute of Dental Research  
Westwood Building - Room 510  
Bethesda, Maryland 20205

Telephone (301) 496-7491
ANNOUNCEMENT

REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS: RFA

84-DE-04

NATIONAL RESEARCH SERVICE AWARDS FOR INSTITUTIONAL, POSTDOCTORAL TRAINING PROGRAMS IN CARIES RESEARCH

P.T. 44; K.W. 0701041, 1200170

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF DENTAL RESEARCH

Application Receipt Date: June 15, 1984

The National Institute of Dental Research (NIDR) supports research and development projects designed to develop methods to prevent and ultimately eliminate dental caries as a public health problem. Coronal caries affects two-thirds of U.S. school children and is the leading cause of tooth loss in children and young adults. The progressive tooth destruction characteristic of the disease results from interactions among three primary factors: oral bacteria, capable of fermenting dietary substrates to produce acid, which dissolves the tooth enamel of a susceptible host. Interventions directed at any one of these three factors prevent the disease. Social and behavioral factors are also important in determining caries incidence and the success of preventive measures. Research strategies are dictated by the multi-factorial etiology of the disease. They focus on combatting the microbial agent, increasing tooth resistance and modifying the diet. Efforts are also being made to improve the delivery and acceptance of caries preventive methods. Very little is known about the etiology and methods for prevention of secondary and root caries, which affect adults and may be increasing in prevalence.

Investigation of the diverse factors implicated in caries etiology and the development and evaluation of preventive methods necessitates participation by investigators from numerous disciplines. These include chemists, microbiologists, immunologists, pharmacologists, nutritionists, behavioral scientists, statisticians, epidemiologists and dentists experienced in conducting clinical trials and demonstration programs. In addition, there is a need for individuals with capabilities spanning several of these disciplines. Applications are invited from U.S. organizations for Institutional National Research Service Awards (NRSA) to provide post-doctoral training in caries research. Successful applicants will be expected to provide all trainees with didactic instruction in dental and oral anatomy and physiology, composition and functions of saliva, microbial and dietary factors in caries etiology, use of animal models in caries research, principles of epidemiology and biostatistics and the design and conduct of clinical trials. The institutions must have sufficient ongoing, funded research to offer supervised research

This program is described in the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance No. 13.840, Caries Research. Awards will be made under the authority of the Public Health Service Act, Section 472 (42 USC 2891-1), and administered under PHS grants policy and Federal Regulations 42 CFR Part 66.
opportunities in at least two of these areas. Close cooperation between the training program director, faculty and trainees and NIDR staff will be expected to ensure that these objectives are met.

Funds may be requested for training a maximum of six individuals during a five-year project period. Subsequent support will be contingent upon program needs and the applicant's performance. Trainees should be clinically qualified (D.D.S., D.M.D.) or possess Ph.D., M.D., or D.V.M. degrees. Consideration should be given to integrating the training with degree (M.S., M.P.H., Ph.D.) or clinical residency programs, where appropriate. However, the award may only be used to support that portion of the degree or residency program which is required for training in caries research. The current stipend for postdoctoral trainees is $14,040-$19,716, depending on the number of years of relevant experience. Trainee tuition, fees, meeting travel, and medical insurance may be requested. Each trainee may be supported for three years. Trainees are subject to NRSA payback provisions. Institutional costs, up to $2,500 per year, per trainee may be requested to defray training related expenses, such as staff salaries and research supplies.

Because of funding limitations and the specialized nature of the training it is probable that only one new award will be made. Awards resulting from this RFA are contingent upon receipt of appropriated funds. The earliest start date will be July 1, 1985. Applications will be evaluated initially by the NIDR Special Grants Review Committee and subsequently by the National Advisory Dental Research Council early in 1985. Results of the competition will be announced shortly thereafter. This RFA may be reissued at a later date.

There will be a single competition with a receipt date of June 15, 1984. Applications received after that date will be accepted at the discretion of the Division of Research Grants (DRG) staff. Applicants should use form PHS 6025, which is available in most institutional business offices or from the DRG, NIH. The face page must be labeled "In response to RFA 84-DE-04." The original and six copies should be mailed to:

Division of Research Grants  
National Institutes of Health  
Westwood Building - Room 240  
Bethesda, Maryland 20205

Applications judged to be nonresponsive to this request will be returned to the applicant. To ensure that applications will be responsive to NIDR interests, potential applicants are strongly urged to submit a brief letter of intent providing an outline of the proposal on or before April 30, 1984. The letter of intent is not binding nor is it a prerequisite for acceptance of applications. Letters of intent, questions concerning this RFA, and requests for NRSA institutional grant announcements should be addressed to:

John D. Townsley, Ph.D.  
Chief, Caries and Restorative Materials Research Branch  
Extramural Programs  
National Institute of Dental Research  
Westwood Building - Room 522  
Bethesda, Maryland 20205

Telephone: (301) 496-7884
ANNOUNCEMENT

CLINICAL INVESTIGATOR AWARD

P.T. 34; K.W. 1200240, 1200200, 1200270

NATIONAL HEART, LUNG, AND BLOOD INSTITUTE

Application Receipt Dates: February 1, June 1 and October 1

I. PURPOSE

The National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute (NHLBI) announces the availability of Clinical Investigator Awards. The clinical investigator award program is intended to:

- encourage newly trained clinicians to develop clinical and basic research interests and skills in the areas of cardiovascular, pulmonary, or blood diseases and the blood banking sciences.
- increase the pool of physician investigators in the areas of cardiovascular, pulmonary, or blood diseases and the blood banking sciences.

These awards provide the opportunity for clinically trained physicians with a commitment to research to develop into independent biomedical research investigators.

The award will enable candidates to undertake five years of special study and supervised experience tailored to individual needs with a sponsor (or sponsors) competent to provide research guidance. This award is intended to cover the transition between postdoctoral experience and a career in independent investigation. The clinical investigator award differs from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) Research Career Development Award (RCDA) in that it seeks to develop research ability in individuals who have completed their clinical training rather than to promote the further development of research skills of individuals already demonstrating significant research achievement.

II. PROVISIONS OF THE AWARD

The clinical investigator awardee will be supported for a period of five years. Support is based on a full-time, twelve-month appointment.

This program is described in the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance numbers 13.837, 13.838, and 13.839. 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 the PHS grant policies and Federal Regulations 42 CFR Part 52 and 45 CFR Part 74. This program is not subject to Health Systems Agency review.
ANNOUNCEMENT

THE NCI CLINICAL INVESTIGATOR AWARD

P.T. 34; K.W. 1002014, 1200950, 1201180, 1200270

NATIONAL CANCER INSTITUTE

Application Receipt Dates: June 1, October 1, February 1

I. SUMMARY AND PURPOSE

The National Cancer Institute (NCI) announces the availability of Clinical Investigator Awards for the purpose of developing physician-researchers in basic and applied cancer sciences. The initiation of this award is intended to encourage recently trained, highly qualified physician-investigators to undertake careers in cancer research. The award is prompted by the chronic shortage of physician-investigators, particularly surgical oncologists, therapeutic radiologists, diagnostic radiologists, preventive oncologists, physiatrists, nutritionists, and epidemiologists. It is expected to facilitate the awardee's transition to independent basic or applied research. The award will enable successful candidates to investigate for up to three years a defined cancer problem under the guidance of an active researcher who has the knowledge, background and research experience required to be a mentor in that field.

II. ELIGIBILITY

A. Candidate

The award is designed to provide intensive, supervised research experience for physicians. Thus, candidates are restricted to those holding the M.D. or D.O. degree. A candidate will not qualify if he/she is in any of the following categories:

- a person having more than seven years of postdoctoral experience at the time of award;
- a person having previous independent NIH research support or its equivalent from another source;

This program is described in the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance No. 13.398, Cancer Research Manpower. Award 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 74. This program is not subject to Health Systems Agency review.
a person having less than two years total postdoctoral clinical experience at the time of the award;

a person holding a Ph.D. or comparable research degree.

Candidates should have broad clinical training, should demonstrate individual competence in clinical activities, and should show research potential in the chosen area of interest. Candidates must provide evidence of a serious intent for engaging in research and/or academic careers.

Only United States citizens, nationals or permanent residents may be presented as candidates for this award.

B. Institution

The sponsoring institution must have a strong, well-established research program in the candidate's area of interest, and experienced faculty members in the clinical and basic departments relevant to the candidate's proposed training. The institution must include a plan for the candidate's research and academic development. Only domestic institutions are eligible.

C. Preceptor

The candidate's primary preceptor must be a competent investigator in the area of the candidate's proposed research activity. The preceptor must be active currently as an investigator, and must be prepared to provide personally much of the candidate's research supervision. The award is intended to provide an intensive, supervised research experience for the successful candidate.

III. PROVISIONS OF THE AWARD

The Clinical Investigator Award is made for a maximum nonrenewable and nontransferable period of three years. Support is based upon a full-time, twelve-month appointment. The award will provide salary support not to exceed $30,000 annually from NCI funds for the three-year period. The actual salary must be consistent with the established salary structure of the grantee institution for persons of equivalent qualifications, experience, and rank. This salary may be supplemented by the grantee institution in conformance with PHS policy. Up to a total of $10,000 annually will be provided for supplies, equipment, travel, etc., which are necessary for pursuit of the awardee's research program. Funds will be provided for the reimbursement of indirect costs at a rate not to exceed eight percent of the total allowable direct costs. When requested, the grantee institution's share of the fringe benefits may be paid as a direct cost (if not treated as an indirect cost) on that portion of the employee's salary provided by the NCI Clinical Investigator Award.

It is expected that the candidate will spend at least 75 percent of his/her time in research during the period, with the remainder being divided among other activities such as teaching, pertinent clinical training, research training, and academic studies. An appropriate sponsor must assume responsibility and provide guidance for the research development in the chosen areas.
Institutions may apply for awards on behalf of named individuals meeting the above criteria. It is not essential for the applicant institution to commit itself in the application to eventual placement of the candidate on its permanent, full-time faculty, but it is expected that institutions will choose candidates who will be able to meet the criteria for making that decision. Evidence of commitment to the candidate's research development must be provided by the institution.

Candidates for this award may not concurrently apply for a Research Career Development Award, an Academic Award or a New Investigator Research Award.

Candidates must be nominated by an institution on the basis of qualifications, interests, accomplishments, motivation and potential for an academic or research career. Candidates must have one or more sponsors at the institution who are recognized as accomplished researchers or teachers in the candidate's area of proposed development. The sponsor(s) must provide (1) his/her concept of a development and research plan for the candidates; (2) his/her updated curriculum vitae with a complete bibliography and research support; and (3) a letter indicating willingness to provide guidance and support for the award's duration.

Candidates must provide a full description of the proposed research and career development plan for the three-year period of the award. The candidate must be prepared to commit full-time effort to the objectives of this award.

Candidates must agree to inform the NCI annually for a period of ten years subsequent to completion of the award about academic status, publications, and research grants or contracts received.

IV. REVIEW CRITERIA

Applications will undergo initial merit review in the Grants Review Branch, Division of Extramural Activities, NCI. Secondary review will be by the National Cancer Advisory Board. Criteria for review include:

- The candidate's potential for a career in independent research;
- The candidate's commitment to a research career;
- The eligibility of the candidate as defined in the program announcement;
- The overall merit of the candidate's three-year plan for research and the development of research skills;
- The quality of the candidate's clinical training and experience;
- The institution's ability to provide quality facilities, resources, and opportunities necessary to the candidate's research development;
- Presence of highly trained faculty in clinical and basic science departments relative to the area of study; and
- The ability and plans of the sponsor (or sponsors) who will provide the candidate with the guidance necessary for career development in research.
V. HOW TO APPLY

Please read a copy of the "Program Guidelines" before applying for one of these awards. These are obtainable from Dr. Mayyasi. An application for this award should be made on form PHS 398 (Rev. 5/82). Application receipt dates are: February 1, June 1, and October 1. Please send the original and six (6) copies to the Division of Research Grants as indicated in the instructions furnished in the application kit. Questions should be addressed to:

Sami A. Mayyasi, Ph.D.
Program Director
Clinical Investigator Awards
Division of Cancer Prevention and Control
Blair Building - Room 717
Bethesda, Maryland 20205

Telephone: (301) 427-8898
ANNOUNCEMENT

VASCULAR AND LYMPHATIC INVASION IN BREAST CANCER

P.T. 34; K.W. 1002021, 1200370

NATIONAL CANCER INSTITUTE

The Breast Cancer Section of the Organ Systems Program, Division of Resources, Centers, and Community Activities, National Cancer Institute (NCI), sponsors both fundamental and clinical research grants and contracts in a continuing effort to improve our ability to diagnose and to estimate prognosis in cases of breast cancer. In the past several years, it has been shown that vascular and/or lymphatic invasion is an important correlate of survival. This request for applications is intended to encourage submission of investigator-initiated research grant proposals designed to facilitate the identification of intravascular and intralymphatic tumor growth in histological sections.

I. BACKGROUND

The importance of tumor extension into vascular and/or lymphatic channels has been recognized for years. However, in the breast, pathologists have always had difficulty in distinguishing intravascular or intralymphatic tumor growth, even with the use of special histochemical methods, such as elastic tissue stains. These stains are of no use in differentiating tumor growth in venules, capillaries or lymphatics, since these small vessels do not have elastic tissue. Larger vessels, such as veins and small arteries which have an elastic lamina often cannot be distinguished from mammary ducts, especially in the areas of periductal elastosis. Furthermore, vascular or lymphatic channels may be difficult to recognize because of fibrosis, which often occurs in breast cancer, shrinkage artifacts from fixation, or inflammation which obscures the vascular space.

Thus in order to improve the detection and quantitation of vascular and lymphatic invasion, especially in Stage I cancers, the Breast Cancer Section is interested in 1) developing histochemical, immunohistochemical or other histologic methods that could be used routinely and that would differentiate intravascular and intralymphatic extension from the remainder of the tumor mass, or 2) determining other histologic factors that would correlate with the extent of invasion. With further clinical pathological studies, it should be possible to determine if these methods can provide a useful estimate of prognosis and even serve as a guide for therapy.

This program is described in the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance No. 13.394 - Cancer Detection and Diagnosis 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 Health Systems Agency Review.
II. MECHANISM OF SUPPORT

The mechanism of support will be the traditional research grant. Policies that govern research grant programs of the National Institutes of Health will prevail. The award of grants pursuant to this request for grant applications is contingent upon receipt of proposals of high scientific merit and the availability of appropriated funds.

III. APPLICATION AND REVIEW PROCEDURES

A. Assignment of Applications

Applications will be received by the Division of Research Grants (DRG), National Institutes of Health (NIH). DRG will refer the proposals to the appropriate Study Section for scientific review, and will assign them to the NCI for possible funding and management. These decisions will be governed by normal programmatic considerations as specified in the DRG Referral Guidelines.

B. Review Procedures

Applications in response to this announcement will be reviewed in accordance with the usual NIH peer review procedures (Study Section). Factors considered in the scientific merit evaluation of each application will include an assessment of the importance of the proposed research problem, the novelty and originality of approach, the training experience and research competence of the investigator(s), the adequacy of experimental design, the suitability of the facilities, and the appropriateness of the requested budget relative to the work proposed.

C. Deadlines

Applications will be accepted in accordance with the usual dates for new applications on an indefinite basis: March 1, July 1, and November 1.
ANNOUNCEMENT

PERSISTENT VIRAL INFECTIONS - ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE

P.T. 34; K.W. 1002045, 1200670, 0404002, 1200460

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF ALLERGY AND INFECTIOUS DISEASES
NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF NEUROLOGICAL AND COMMUNICATIVE
DISORDERS AND STROKE
NATIONAL INSTITUTE ON AGING

The National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID), the National Institute of Neurological and Communicative Disorders and Stroke (NINCDS) and the National Institute on Aging (NIA) invite applications for regular research grants on the subject of persistent viral infections possibly associated with, or models for, chronic human diseases such as Alzheimer's disease.

Viral infections have been associated with several chronic diseases of man such as recurrent herpes and chronic persistent hepatitis as well as the spongiform encephalitides. Viral etiologies also have been hypothesized for acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS), juvenile onset diabetes and certain chronic degenerative diseases such as Alzheimer's. How viruses can persist in cells, escape immune surveillance and alter vital cellular functions has not been well elucidated. Progress has been slow partly due to the lack of adequate experimental hosts for study and, in most cases, failure to isolate and cultivate the putative pathogens.

The interests of NIAID are directed toward understanding in depth mechanisms by which viruses can persist within fully differentiated mammalian cells or tissues for long periods in immunocompetent individuals and cause alterations of specialized cell functions, autoimmune reactions or cytopathology.

The programmatic interests of NINCDS include infectious bases of neurological disorders with particular emphasis upon persistent infections of cells and tissues of the nervous system and the biology of viral neurotropism.

The NIA is interested in supporting research on infectious diseases that involve the aging process or that present problems for the aging.

Although the programmatic goals emphasize diseases of man, experimental systems in other mammalian hosts may be more appropriate to investigate the basic processes of pathogenesis. Model systems that relate to known chronic human diseases are sought for study.

This program is described in the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance No. 13.856, Microbiology and Infectious Diseases Research. Awards will be made under the authority of the Public Health Service Act, Title III, Section 301 (Public Law 73-410, as amended; 42 USC 241) and administered under PHS grant policies and Federal Regulations 42 CFR Part 52. This program is not subject to Health Systems Agency review.
Another goal of this research program is to identify biological markers that are predisposing to or diagnostic of specific chronic diseases, such as Alzheimer's, for which a transmissible etiologic agent may be suspected but not yet known.

APPLICATION SUBMISSION AND REVIEW

Eligibility: Universities, medical colleges, hospitals, and laboratories of other public, private or for profit institutions are eligible. Application receipt dates for new applications are the regular receipt dates of March 1, July 1 and November 1. The earliest possible award date is approximately nine months after the receipt date. Applicants should use the regular research grant application form PHS 398 that is available at most institutional business offices or from the Division of Research Grants (DRG), NIH.

To identify responses to this announcement, check "yes" and put "Persistent Viral Infections, Alzheimer's Disease" under Item 2 of page 1 of those grant applications relating to the topic of this announcement. The completed application should be mailed to:

Division of Research Grants
National Institutes of Health
Westwood Building - Room 240
5333 Westbard Avenue
Bethesda, Maryland 20205

The DRG will assign applications for technical review according to the NIH process for regular grant applications. Assignments for funding decisions will follow programmatic guidelines established for NIH.

Inquiries prior to submission may be directed to:

William P. Allen, Ph.D. or Zaven S. Khachaturian, Ph.D.
BVB, MIDP, NIAID PAB, BRCMP, NIA
Westwood Building - Room 736 Building 31C - Room 5C27
National Institutes of Health National Institutes of Health
Bethesda, Maryland 20205 Bethesda, Maryland 20205

Telephone: (301) 496-7453 Telephone: (301) 496-9350

or

A. P. Kerza-Kwiatecki, Ph. D.
DADDP, NINCDS
Federal Building - Room 708A
National Institutes of Health
Bethesda, Maryland 20205

Telephone: (301) 496-1431
ANNOUNCEMENT

THE BIOLOGY OF NEURODEGENERATIVE DISORDERS

P.T. 34; K.W. 1002008, 1002030, 1200900, 0701007

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF NEUROLOGICAL AND COMMUNICATIVE DISORDERS
AND STROKE

I. PURPOSE

The National Institute of Neurological and Communicative Disorders and Stroke (NINCDS) invites qualified investigators to submit grant applications for the support of research on the biological bases of neurodegenerative disorders. These include motor neuron diseases (e.g.: amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, progressive bulbar palsy), basal ganglia disorders (e.g.: Parkinson's and Huntington's disease), heredofamilial ataxias, Alzheimer's disease, and neurosensory disorders such as presbycusis and familial deafness. Recent progress in the fields of molecular genetics, immunology, biochemistry, and anatomy, and technical developments in Positron Emission Tomography and Nuclear Magnetic Resonance imaging have created new opportunities for understanding the bases of the premature nerve cell death and system degenerations that underlie such degenerative disorders of the nervous and communicative systems.

The proposed program of grant support was designed in honor of Senator Jacob Javits, to recognize his vigorous and effective support of neuroscience research as the best hope for the eventual conquest of these degenerative neurological and communicative disorders.

II. BACKGROUND

Neurodegenerative disorders result from the premature death of nerve cells in the brain and spinal cord: anterior horn cells for motor neuron disease, dopaminergic neurons of the substantia nigra in Parkinsonism, the caudate nucleus in Huntington's disease, cholinergic neurons in the basal forebrain in Alzheimer's disease, and cells and tracts of the acoustic system in degenerative hearing disorders.

This program is described in the Catalogue of Federal Domestic Assistance Number 13.854, Biological Basis Research. Grants will be awarded under the authority of the Public Health Service Act, Title IV, Section 301 (Public Law 78-410, as amended; 42 USC 241) and administered under PHS grants policies and Federal Regulations 42 CFR Part 52 and 45 CFR Part 74. This Program is not subject to Health Systems Agency review.
Such neuronal degeneration has been attributed to genetic defects, transmissible infectious agents, toxic substances, immune system disorders and other as yet undetermined mechanisms. New research techniques have created opportunities for further exploration.

- The recent progress in the molecular genetics of Huntington's disease opens the door to presymptomatic and prenatal diagnosis of this disorder as well as for the identification and cloning of the defective gene itself. Similar techniques could be applicable to other genetic disorders such as Friedreich's ataxia, familial Alzheimer's disease, and hereditary deafness.

- The ability to demonstrate neurotransmitter receptors in the living human brain using positron emission tomography permits the study of receptors during the course of a disease or while a patient is receiving therapy.

- The demonstration that grafting neurotransmitter synthesizing tissues into animal brains may reverse the effects of basal ganglia lesions could have important therapeutic implication for disorders resulting from the failure of focal collections of neurons to secrete neurotransmitters.

- Immunocytological techniques can now be combined with anatomical and biochemical methodologies to trace pathways through the nervous system and to identify transmitter substances and their receptors.

- Many different peptides, originally characterized in non-neural tissues, continue to be identified and localized in various brain regions. Specific receptors for some peptides have been identified. Neuropeptides have been shown to affect such diverse physiological functions as pain, appetite, blood pressure and electrolyte balance. Alterations in concentration of specific brain peptides have been reported in Alzheimer's and Huntington's disease. These alterations may be useful as possible markers for neurodegenerative disorders. Their role in the etiology of such disorders is still unknown.

### III. OBJECTIVES AND SCOPE

This solicitation is prompted by the need for an expanded research effort to gain greater insights into the mechanisms of neuronal and system degenerations. Research is encouraged to develop methods for elucidating the mechanisms of nerve cell death through the application of new techniques in neurobiology. Such research could involve, for example:

- Identification of naturally occurring and experimentally induced animal models of neurodegenerative disorders.

- Development of molecular genetic techniques for the identification of genetic markers for neurodegenerative disorders, cloning the defective gene(s), and identification of the mechanism by which the gene product causes nerve cell degeneration.

- Development of techniques to visualize transmitters, receptors or neuronal activity in living brains and the application of imaging technology (PET and NMR) to studies of nerve cell degeneration.

- Investigation of viral induced degeneration of nerve cells.
Investigation of the role of peptides and other neurotransmitters in neurodegenerative disorders.

Studies of developmental processes to elucidate the mechanisms of neuronal death that occurs in the course of normal development.

Studies of degeneration and regeneration of nerve cells in the olfactory system.

These are only examples of possibly fruitful research areas and should not be viewed as exclusive.

IV. APPLICATION SUBMISSION AND REVIEW

Application receipt dates for new applications are the regular application receipt dates of March 1, July 1, and November 1. Applications received after any one receipt date are considered and reviewed together with those received by the next receipt date. The earliest possible award date is approximately nine months after the receipt date. Applicants should use the regular research grant application form PHS-398, which is available at the applicant's institutional application control office or from the Division of Research Grants (DRG) National Institutes of Health (NIH).

Applications received in response to this announcement will be assigned for review and funding considerations according to established guidelines in the NIH Handbook for Referral.

In order to identify the response to this announcement, check "yes" and put "The Biology of Neurodegenerative Disorders" under item 2 on page 1 of the application. The original and five copies of the application should be mailed to:

Division of Research Grants
National Institutes of Health
Westwood Building - Room 240
Bethesda, Maryland 20205

An additional copy should be sent directly to the address below where further information may also be obtained:

Janett Trubatch, Ph.D.
Health Scientist Administrator
Demyelinating, Atrophic, and Dementing Disorders Program
National Institute of Neurological and Communicative Disorders and Stroke
Federal Building - Room 704
Bethesda, Maryland 20205

Telephone (301) 496-1431
NATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON SCIENTIFIC AND PUBLIC ISSUES THAT ARISE FROM HEALTH RESEARCH INVOLVING VERTEBRATE ANIMALS

April 11-12, 1984

REGISTRATION FORM
(Please Type Or Print)

Name ____________________________________________________________

Title/Organization ________________________________________________

Address _________________________________________________________

City/State/Zip ___________________________________________________

Telephone _______________________________________________________

Please forward no later than Friday, March 30, 1984, to:

Office for Protection from Research Risks
National Institutes of Health
Building 31 - Room 4B09
Bethesda, Maryland 20205

Telephone: (301) 496-7005