SWOG Translational Medicine Committee

TRANSLATIONAL SCIENCE DEVELOPMENT AWARD PROGRAM

OVERVIEW

The Southwest Oncology Group (SWOG) is among the largest NCI funded cancer cooperative groups. With more than 5,000 investigators at over 400 sites, SWOG has approximately 120 clinical trials available at any given time. SWOG’s mission is to prevent and treat cancer in adults, and to improve the quality of life for cancer survivors through clinical trials.

SWOG’s Translational Medicine Committee (TMC) announces an initiative to promote translational science throughout the cancer research community by funding research that utilizes SWOG tissue and / or patient resources from clinical trials to enhance clinical translation and adoption to practice. Awards will be issued through a competitive, peer-review process with $1,000,000 in funding devoted to this initiative.

Individual projects are funded for up to $175,000 in total costs/year for a period of 1-3 years.

OBJECTIVES

This initiative is intended to provide a mechanism to encourage the development of novel translational research within the cancer research community.

KEY DATES

Applications are due by close of business on August 14, 2009.
Initial year funding period is January 1, 2010 – December 31, 2010.

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

All interested NIH-eligible researchers are encouraged to submit to this program. Awardees will be expected to present their work at the semiannual SWOG group meetings and to adhere to Group policies and procedures as applicable to the project.

APPLICATIONS

- An NIH-bio sketch for proposed PI and key personnel is required.
- An initial year and projected years budget and detailed justification (using PHS 398 form pages 4 & 5) with a completed face page (form page 1) and checklist are required.
- The narrative proposal should utilize the NIH guidelines for a 12-page submission and clearly describe a translational project requiring SWOG resources. Submissions must describe the potential future direction of the research being proposed.
- A cover letter from the PI must accompany the submission and must include PI contact information, title, and total dollar project request, describe anticipated cost sharing if any, and summarize the tissue and/or other SWOG resources required to complete the project. The SWOG Translational Medicine Study Request Form should be used.
Completed submissions should be sent as a single PDF file to laszlo@umich.edu with the email subject line **SWOG TMC PROPOSAL**.

All applicants will receive reviewer comments. Applications will be scored by a reviewer panel utilizing the NIH scoring scale and the review will include the following criteria:

- **Significance**: The potential significance of the proposed research for the near future.
- **Approach**: Adequacy of methods to address the question.
- **Innovation**: Originality and novelty of the experimental design.
- **Plausibility**: Likelihood of accomplishing project goals within the grant period, and availability of resources needed to accomplish project goals.
- **Multidisciplinary Interactions**: Clear evidence of co-leadership by a basic and a more applied scientist in the conception, design and proposed implementation of the project.
- **Potential**: Likelihood that completion of research will allow investigator to compete for further R01-level funding.

The application should reflect a concise plan of the research to be performed during the proposed project period. A grant application involving humans or animals may be approved, but funds will not be committed until appropriate approval is received. Final decisions are at the discretion of the SWOG leadership.

Inquiries and questions related to this may be directed to:

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