

Brain Canada-Huntington Society of Canada Creating HD Clinician-Scientist-to-Patient Virtual Networks

Teleconference Information Session Summary

December 15 2015

Science-related Q&A

Q: How critical is the inclusion of other neurodegenerative diseases in a research proposal?

A: This call is for researchers that have a primary focus of HD but also welcomes researchers that focus on HD relative to other neurodegenerative diseases. Proposals are evaluated on the criteria outlined in the RFA. The overall outcome of these proposals should be innovative, collaborative, and move HD forward (e.g. from discovery, translation, implementation, information in the clinic).

A few examples of projects that would not be appropriate for this call include: 1) An Alzheimer's proposal with little focus on HD; and 2) A highly focused HD proposal that has applications to other neurodegenerative disorders but does not move either disease forward.

An example of a project that fits with this call includes: taking observations from another disorder and aiming them clinically at HD to move HD forward.

Q: Can you provide clarification on what constitutes the HD-community component?

A: The HD-community component does not require interaction with live patients. The HD-community could mean using HD human samples, or novel information from HD patients. The focus of this call is on innovation that is centered on the HD community.

Q: What is the expected scope of a research proposal?

A: Can be large or small, as long as it can be completed within the justified budget, and satisfies the criteria of establishing an innovative, collaborative, impactful project.

Q: Is it important to have a team in which the members have previously collaborated?

A: It is incumbent on the applicant to demonstrate how the collaboration, whether old or new, will work to accomplish the project's objectives.

Q: Does having a project based at one Canadian institution with one international partner satisfy the multi-institutional component?

The team members can be based at one or several research institutions within Canada. There is allowance for one international collaborator.

Application/process-related Q&A

Q: Can an investigator be on more than one proposal?

A: An investigator can be a team member on multiple proposals, but can only be a team leader on one proposal.