UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO MOVEMENT DISORDERS CENTER
2016-2017 REQUEST FOR MDC PILOT GRANT APPLICATIONS

I. Description
Over the past several years the MDC has received philanthropic donations earmarked for movement disorders related research. The leadership of the MDC has decided that these funds would be best used to invest in pilot projects and young investigators with the objectives of increasing the chances of success for unique projects tied to the MDC and encouraging promising young investigators to pursue careers in research. Projects may be clinical, translational or basic science.

II. Key Dates
a. Funding Announcement July 1, 2016
b. Proposals Due August 19, 2016
c. Review of Proposals August 31, 2016
d. Funding Announcement and Project Start September 12, 2016
e. Project Completion June 30, 2017

III. General Considerations for All Applicants
a. Number of awards provided will depend on funds available and quality of applications.
b. If Philanthropists have earmarked funds for a particular condition this will be mentioned specifically in the program announcement and proposals targeting this area will be given special consideration.
c. Principal Investigators and Mentors (when applicable) must be members of the MDC to be considered for MDC Pilot Grants. To become a member of the MDC, apply online:
http://www.ucdenver.edu/academics/colleges/medicalschool/departments/neurology/research/MovementDisordersCenter/Membership%20Form/Pages/Membership.aspx
d. Applications may include collaborations with persons and institutions outside of the MDC.
e. Preference may be given to projects led by fellows, residents or students and projects seeking to collect pilot data that would be unlikely to be funded by other mechanisms.
f. Funded applicants will be expected to provide a progress report and presentation at our MDC retreat or Interdisciplinary Seminar by June 2017.

IV. Budget and Time Line
Projects for the 2016-2017 cycle should have budgets less than $10,000 and duration of one year or less. Applicants may ask for a no cost extension to complete projects and may include a
contingency plan in their application should it be possible that they do not complete all study activities in one year. We will only provide a budget for Direct Costs.

V. Application Process
Applications should use the attached form for their proposal (also available on MDC website, see MDC membership form link above). NIH format biosketches should be provided for all investigators and letters of support are required from mentors and strongly encouraged from co-investigators.

VI. Review Criteria
Grants will be reviewed using the NIH scoring system and criteria including: Significance, Innovation, Approach, Investigators and Environment. Additional considerations for the MDC Pilot Grant process will be how well proposal forwards the mission of the MDC, how likely the proposal is to lead to future funding/publications, and (for junior investigators) how likely candidate is to continue in movement disorders related research.

VII. Contacts
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