



Cancer Center

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO ANSCHUTZ MEDICAL CAMPUS

MEMORANDUM

TO: All Members of the University of Colorado Cancer Center and Faculty at the University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus

FROM: James DeGregori, Cathy Bradley, Heide Ford, Jamie Studts, Rajesh Agarwal, Lia Gore, Antonio Jimeno, Dan Gustafson, Tin Tin Su, Craig Jordan, Patricia Ernst, Jennifer Richer, Jill Slansky, Mike Verneris, Nicole Ehrhart

RE: UCCC Funding Opportunity in Aging and Cancer

DATE: August 3, 2020

The University of Colorado Cancer Center is interested in promoting the development of collaborative research initiatives among Cancer Center members in the area of ***Aging and Cancer***. Priority will be given to applications that are multi-disciplinary, impactful to the catchment and beyond, and that leverage strengths of our research community. Proposals must be collaborative, and the lead PI(s) must be a Cancer Center member¹. New collaborations as well as those that are ongoing, but that have not yet received national-level funding will be considered. Priority will be given to proposals that have a high likelihood of leading to NCI or other national peer-reviewed cancer research funding. Priority will also be given to applications that engage the community or focus on under-represented or high priority groups within the catchment area (Colorado). Funding for these projects is from the Cancer Center Programs, the Associate Director for Basic Research (H. Ford), the Associate Director for Population Sciences (C. Bradley), and the CSU Columbine Health Systems Center for Healthy Aging (N. Ehrhart).

Projects will be awarded for 1 year only, and recipients will be expected to submit competitive national grant proposals within 6 months following the completion of this scope of work.

We expect to award 3-4 projects at \$40-50K each. The budget should be split across collaborating labs.

Applications will be reviewed by Cancer Center and CSU Columbine Health Systems Center for Healthy Aging leaders. Scores will be based on the scientific impact and significance; the likelihood of obtaining NCI funding; and on the multi-disciplinary and translational nature of the work.

Examples of areas of interest include (but are not limited to):

- 1) How aging influences features of normal and/or cancer cells that are relevant to cancer causation (e.g. telomere attrition, mutation accumulation, etc).
- 2) How aging influences systemic features, from inflammatory cytokines to hormones to immune function, that can influence cancer initiation, progression and responses to therapy.
- 3) Understanding the impact of age on anti-tumor immune function or metastatic cancer spread.
- 4) How age and relative frailty influence responses to therapies (from conventional to targeted to immune), whether studied in animal models or in human patients.
- 5) Exploration for how therapies, such as in children, can lead to premature aging and consequent increased risks of secondary complications (from cardiac disease to secondary cancers).
- 6) Studies to understand how age influences treatment decisions, survivorship and access to care.

This list is not exclusive and should serve as examples only.

¹ Cancer Center membership is available to all faculty who have a demonstrated track record in cancer research or patient care. Application for membership is voluntary and is required in order to submit under this RFA. Applications are located at: <https://medschool.cuanschutz.edu/colorado-cancer-center/membership-resources>



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Email an electronic copy of your application (pdf format) to Jason Quinn

by 5:00 pm December 1, 2020

(jason.quinn@cuanschutz.edu)

If you have any questions about the application process, please call or email Michaela Montour (303-724-3151; or Michaela.Montour@cuanschutz.edu). For questions about research scope or other science related inquiries, contact James DeGregori (james.degregori@cuanschutz.edu).

Application Guidelines

Applications which do not adhere to the following guidelines will not be considered. All narrative sections of the application must maintain at least ½ inch margins; must be single-spaced; and must be in a font size not less than 11 point.

At least one co-PI must be a current or pending member of the Cancer Center. Membership applications are located at <https://medschool.cuanschutz.edu/colorado-cancer-center/membership-resources>

Title Page: Include the title of the project and the name and email address of the Principal Investigators and other Key Personnel.

Summary/Abstract: Applications must include a summary/abstract of the project not to exceed one-half page or 30 lines of single-spaced type. It should consist of a brief description of the objectives, rationale, methods, and expected results.

Budget: A detailed, categorical budget request for the project must be provided. The budget should be for one year only and should be in the range of \$40-50K. Faculty salary support is not allowed. Funds will not be provided to pay for clinical services or other expenses that are reimbursable costs normally charged to insurance. No indirect costs will be funded. We anticipate an October 1, 2020 start date.

Budget Justification: Please include a detailed budget justification for all costs. Requests for travel funds or for items of equipment are not allowed.

Biographical Sketch: Include an NIH-style biographical sketch for all key personnel listed on the title page.

Other Support: Provide a complete list of all current and pending research support for all key personnel. Be sure to include the funding Agency, project title, award amount (annual direct costs and total project direct costs), period of award and Principal Investigator. Overlap with the present application must be defined and justified.

Project Narrative: Provide a complete but concise description of the project including the following sections (adherence to stated page limits is required):

- Specific Aims – no more than **0.5 page**
- Rationale and Background – limited to **1 page**
- Preliminary Studies – limited to **1.5 pages**
- Experimental Design and Methods – limited to **3 pages**
- Other information required to fully describe the proposed work may be included. *However, **the Project Narrative should be no more than a total of 6 typed pages, including figures, tables and other relevant data.*** (Appendices will not be accepted).

Significance: The importance of the proposed work, its relevance to how age impacts cancer, its translational impact, the potential for further research and the plan for securing future funding for the project must be clearly and concisely stated (limited to 0.5 page).

References: References should be limited to two pages.

Other Factors and Assurances: Applicants may include a concise description of any other factors that should be considered in evaluation of the proposal, for example, specialized resources or equipment available to the study, collaborative arrangements (verified by letter of agreement), etc.



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If the study involves human subjects, vertebrate animals, or recombinant DNA research, the Principal Investigator must certify that, if a grant is awarded, he/she will adhere to appropriate regulations, including approval of the study by the properly constituted Institutional Review Board, Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee, and/or Biosafety Committee. Funds may not be expended until documentation of the required approval(s) is provided.

Publications

All publications, abstracts, or similar communications resulting from work supported through this funding opportunity must acknowledge this support by inclusion of the statement: "Supported (in part) by a grant from the University of Colorado Cancer Center and the CSU Columbine Health Systems Center for Healthy Aging."

In addition, if you use Cancer Center Shared Resources in the course of your research you must also include the statement "This research was supported in part by the _____ Shared Resource of the University of Colorado Cancer Center (P30CA046934)" and ***submit your publication to PubMed Central*** as required by the NIH Public Access Policy (Division G, Title II, Section 218 of Public Law 110-161).

Periodic Reports

Recipients will be required to present progress on their project to leadership from both Centers. In addition, recipients will be required to provide a written report of progress each year through the duration of the project.

A final report summarizing the results of the pilot project, including information on grant proposals submitted to further the research and the outcome of those proposals and publications of the research performed under the pilot will be required. Note that publications attributed to this pilot award ***must*** acknowledge the pilot funding (please see above under Publications).

Annual updates on additional outcomes – i.e. funded grants, publications, patents, or other intellectual property - are required for up to three years following the completion of the project.