



## **Clinical Research Funding Announcement** **Pilot Grant Program for Myasthenia Gravis**

### **Objectives**

MGNet, a NIH-funded Rare Diseases Clinical Research Consortium (RDCRC) in partnership with the Myasthenia Gravis Foundation of America and Conquer MG, is seeking proposals that address the clinical research field in myasthenia gravis. The priorities of the Pilot Grant Program should focus on one of the aspects listed.

- 1) Identify treatment responsive biomarkers
- 2) Assess clinical measures and improve that enhance clinical trial readiness
- 3) Evaluate therapeutic interventions for one or more of the five distinct sub-types of MG (additional information in the full proposal will be required for clinical trials).

Pilot studies must be designed to access the resources of MGNet and focused on clinical research (<https://grants.nih.gov/grants/glossary.htm#ClinicalResearch>), including fulfilling the definition of clinical research and exclusion of animal studies.

### **Funding**

The MGNet expects to fund up to two grants, each at a level of \$75,000 (IDCs will be limited to 10% and included in the \$75,000). Projects will be funded for 12 months, with a start date of June, 2020. Selection among the applications received will be based on the recommendations of a review committee. A grant may be renewed for an additional one year with approval by the same review process and availability of funds. Demonstration of fulfillment of initial aims and justification for additional funding will be required. The request will be required a minimum of three months prior to the initial funding period completion.

### **Important dates**

RFA release: October 16, 2019

Letter of intent due: December 16, 2019

Invitation to submit full application: January 20, 2020

Full proposal due: March 20, 2020.

Award funding will begin: June 1, 2020.

### **Eligibility**

The PI must hold an MD, PhD, MD/PhD, RN or more advanced, PharmD, DDS, DVM, or equivalent and be a faculty member at an academic institution.

### **Application**

A one page-limit letter of intent (LOI) will include hypothesis, specific aims, explicit go/no-go decisions, general approach, and how the research will benefit from MGNet support. Please contact [MGNet@gwu.edu](mailto:MGNet@gwu.edu) with questions. Upon approval, a full proposal submission will consist of the following sections: specific aims (one page) and research plan (four pages), budget with justification, NIH biosketch for key personnel, human subjects and other institutional assurances to perform the intended research including a specific verification of investigator protected time to perform the study. Proposals will be electronically submitted to the Administrative Core personnel, who will assure all requirements for submission are fulfilled. Proposals will then undergo peer review by an NIH-style study section assembled by the MGNet. Standard review criteria for the parent announcement NIH R01 will be applied (<https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-19-056.html>), or if the application includes a clinical trial (<https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-19-055.html>).

Applications should be submitted via email to [MGNet@gwu.edu](mailto:MGNet@gwu.edu) as an assembled PDF.