

Repurposing Research for Canine-Focused Comparative Trials

Description / Background

This Request for Proposals from [Cures Within Reach](#) and our funding partner [Dogs for Cures](#) is seeking repurposed treatments to address any unsolved canine disease. We are interested in generic or proprietary drugs, devices, nutraceuticals or diagnostics that could be repurposed to create "new" treatments to 1) reduce the symptoms, progression or incidence for any unsolved canine disease; 2) restore function lost to any unsolved canine disease; or 3) to reduce or eliminate severe side effects of currently used therapies for any unsolved canine disease.

These comparative projects studying the natural occurrence of disease in canines should serve as a model for human disease, with the hope that the data will be used to inform a future human clinical trial.

Repurposing research tests already approved and readily available medicines to determine if they are safe and effective in treating a different indication, thereby improving patient outcomes and quality of life. Repurposed medicines must be deemed safe and approved for human or animal use by some regulatory agency, such as the US Food and Drug Administration, European Medicines Agency, Health Canada or Japan's Pharmaceuticals and Medical Devices Agency.

Repurposing research may also:

- Test combination therapies in order to increase efficacy, including combining the current disease treatment with a repurposed treatment
- Modify current treatment protocols to make them more effective, helping more patients for longer periods of time
- Repurpose therapies approved for use in adults into pediatric indications, or vice versa

Please be sure to include the number of dogs in each treatment arm in the Research Description. Additional Proposal submission instructions can be downloaded at this link: <http://bit.ly/cwrpreclinicalrfp>

Our strongest preference is for proof of concept repurposing comparative research trials in canines for any unsolved disease, supported by strong scientific evidence or clinical observations. Preference will be given to those Proposals that:

- Also address an unsolved human disease
- Include a plan or description of how positive results may be used to inform future human clinical trials
- Have a supporting letter from a human clinical collaborator

An unsolved disease is one in which one or more of the following are true:

- There is currently no effective treatment
- The current treatment is only effective for a portion of the patient population
- There is a treatment that is effective, but many patients develop resistance to the therapy
- There is a treatment that is effective for the entire patient population, but the treatment is very expensive
- There is a treatment that is effective for the entire patient population with significant side effects

Even if this is not your area of expertise, you may be able to help! Many of our successes in repurposing have come from researchers and clinicians who had ideas that could impact a disease that was outside of their normal therapeutic or scientific area. Please submit your repurposing ideas, find colleagues from other specialties to work with and circulate this RFP to others who might be interested in submitting an eligible repurposing research project.

Important Funding Information:

Funding Definitions:

- PROJECT FUNDING = total research budget for the proposed project (no set maximum)
- REMAINING PROJECT FUNDING = funding needed to reach the total research budget (no set maximum)
- EXISTING PROJECT FUNDING = Project Funding minus Remaining Project Funding (no set maximum); this represents funding that is already designated for the proposed project, which may be 0
- REQUESTED PROJECT FUNDING = funding requested from Cures Within Reach (this amount should include the 20% institutional match, if applicable)
- BUDGET BREAKDOWN = breakdown of the Requested Project Funding into the listed budget categories (this amount should include the 20% institutional match, if applicable); an amount should be entered into every field, even if that amount is 0
- ESTIMATED OVERALL PROJECT COSTS = REQUESTED PROJECT FUNDING (see above)

Cures Within Reach will accept REQUESTED PROJECT FUNDING amounts that are within the minimum and maximum amounts indicated. We do not set an upper limit to the PROJECT FUNDING, or the EXISTING PROJECT FUNDING, but REQUESTED PROJECT FUNDING amounts to Cures Within Reach are limited to the maximum amount specified in the Funding Information section below. Proposals may be submitted for which the PROJECT FUNDING is within the Cures Within Reach maximum, and for projects that already have EXISTING PROJECT FUNDING from another source and require REMAINING PROJECT FUNDING, when this additional funding from Cures Within Reach will help speed patient impact.

Cures Within Reach REQUESTED PROJECT FUNDING must be sole, late or final funding for the project. REQUESTED PROJECT FUNDING from Cures Within Reach cannot be the first funding raised for a project, unless the REQUESTED PROJECT FUNDING, including any applicable 20% match from the institution, organization or company proposing the research, equals the PROJECT FUNDING.

For this RFP, Cures Within Reach will provide no more than 80% of the REQUESTED PROJECT FUNDING, and the institution, organization or company proposing the research will match at least 20% of the REQUESTED PROJECT FUNDING. The REQUESTED PROJECT FUNDING is equal to the ESTIMATED OVERALL PROJECT COSTS in the BUDGET BREAKDOWN section of the proposal submission, and includes the institutional

20% match. All funding amounts and requests are in US dollars.

Here are several examples of funding requests and disbursements to help investigators and institutions understand the funding opportunity.

Example A: The minimum funding request to CWR is \$25,000 and the maximum is \$50,000. The PI enters \$40,000 for REQUESTED PROJECT FUNDING and for ESTIMATED OVERALL PROJECT COSTS in the BUDGET BREAKDOWN, which equals the PROJECT FUNDING. CWR approves this project, and will provide \$32,000 (80% of the REQUESTED PROJECT FUNDING) and the investigator/institution will match the remaining \$8,000 of the REQUESTED PROJECT FUNDING.

Example B: The minimum funding request to CWR is \$25,000 and the maximum is \$50,000. The PI enters \$50,000 for REQUESTED PROJECT FUNDING and for ESTIMATED OVERALL PROJECT COSTS in the BUDGET BREAKDOWN, which equals the PROJECT FUNDING. CWR approves this project, and will provide \$40,000 (80% of the REQUESTED PROJECT FUNDING) and the investigator/institution will match the remaining \$10,000 of the REQUESTED PROJECT FUNDING.

Example C: The minimum funding request to CWR is \$25,000 and the maximum is \$50,000. The PI enters \$50,000 for REQUESTED PROJECT FUNDING and for ESTIMATED OVERALL PROJECT COSTS in the BUDGET BREAKDOWN, which will cover one-third of the \$150,000 entered for PROJECT FUNDING. The other \$100,000 is entered for EXISTING PROJECT FUNDING, and has already been secured by the investigator and institution. CWR approves this project, and will provide \$40,000 (80% of the REQUESTED PROJECT FUNDING) and the investigator/institution will match the remaining \$10,000 of the REQUESTED PROJECT FUNDING and provide the \$100,000 of the EXISTING PROJECT FUNDING.

REQUESTED PROJECT FUNDING cannot be used for any indirect costs, although up to 10% of the REQUESTED PROJECT FUNDING can be used to cover direct project administrative costs.

Treatments

Diseases/Conditions

[Any repurposed drugs, devices, nutraceuticals or diagnostics](#)

Project Type

- Animal Trial
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Do you have a preference for where the research should take place?

This research can take place anywhere in North America and Europe where good scientific

research and clinical practices can be assured. This RFP is open to accredited academic and governmental research institutions, large group medical practices significantly involved with medical research. Biotechs, pharmaceutical companies and medical device companies located in North America and Europe may also be eligible to apply. Contact Clare Thibodeaux, PhD at clare@cureswithinreach.org to learn more.

Do you have a preference for where you would like to see patient impact?

This RFP is open to treatments for any unsolved canine disease or unmet canine medical need, with preference going to those diseases that are also unsolved in humans.

Restrictions

This research must be a canine comparative trial.

Other Information for Researchers

Cures Within Reach and our funding partner Dogs for Cures is primarily interested in funding proof of concept clinical trials that can determine whether a repurposed therapy can have a direct and positive impact on patients. Sometimes the clinical trials in our portfolio are open label studies with clinical endpoints that compare to the natural history of the disease. Other clinical trials are randomized, blinded and controlled studies. We are open to all clinical trial designs that have the opportunity to create a robust and well-defined outcome that will show reproducible clinical impact.

Cost effectiveness, speed and patient impact are key ranking criteria for a successful Proposal submission. In addition, preference will be given to Proposals that have the ability to impact human clinical care. Cures Within Reach expects to select a small number of Proposals to be chosen for a Full Grant submission. PIs will receive a decision on their Proposal within approximately 6-8 weeks of the RFP deadline.

Funding Available

Minimum \$15,000

Maximum \$25,000

Funding Description

See full Funding information in the Research Description section above. Cures Within Reach will accept REQUESTED PROJECT FUNDING amounts that are within the minimum and maximum amounts indicated. Cures Within Reach REQUESTED PROJECT FUNDING must be sole, late or final funding for the project, as indicated in the Research Description. REQUESTED PROJECT FUNDING cannot be used for any indirect costs, although up to 10% of the

REQUESTED PROJECT FUNDING can be used to cover direct project administrative costs.

Open to co-funding

Co-Funding Description

Open to co-funding. We will accept projects that already have funding from another source and require additional funding, when this additional funding from Cures Within Reach and our funding partner Dogs for Cures will help improve the chances of success of the project, and therefore increase the chance of patient impact. Cures Within Reach REQUESTED PROJECT FUNDING must be sole, late or final funding for the project, as indicated in the Research Description. We are open to working with other funders who share our desire to find solutions for canine diseases through comparative trials and are interested in these near-term repurposing opportunities.

Due Date for Project Proposal Summary Submissions

03-20-2020
