REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

OAIC Genetics Core Development Project
Due Date: February 1, 2010

The Genetics Core of the National Institute on Aging-supported Older Americans Independence Center (OAIC) of the Johns Hopkins Medical Institutions is soliciting proposals from faculty members who seek support for research in genetics consistent with the mission to identify causes and develop interventions for the syndrome of frailty in older adults. The OAIC was established to bring together interdisciplinary working groups from across the Johns Hopkins Medical Institutions in order to achieve this mission. Resources available are particularly targeted to support studies initiated by investigators who are junior or seek to establish a new focus in research on frailty and aging.

Proposals are encouraged to address molecular genetic issues related to frailty and related endophenotypes of sarcopenia, inflammation, oxidative stress, and multisystem decline. Particularly sought is research that addresses: (1) mitochondrial changes, including those related to oxidative stress, DNA deletions or variations, or production of energy that might influence frailty and endophenotypes of muscle strength; (2) the development of epigenetic, genomic, or proteomic technologies that might provide new platforms for molecular etiologic studies of human frailty; (3) animal model development for use in molecular studies and for intervention development studies. Support requested may range up to $35,000 for a one-year period.

Proposals for support by this Center should include specific aims, rationale, preliminary studies and methods for the proposed study, a statement of its relevance to the OAIC mission, requested resources, and timeline. Quarterly benchmarks must be stated; continuation of funding will be contingent upon meeting these benchmarks and reporting them in a timely fashion. Proposals should be no longer than five pages and are due by February 1, 2010. Please refer to the Submission Guidelines document for further detail. Those deemed meritorious will be followed up by subsequent interviews. Final selection and notification of funding is targeted for April 1, 2010. Funding would begin approximately July 1, 2010. Proposals should be submitted via e-mail to the OAIC Administrator, Brian Buta, bbuta@jhmi.edu.

We welcome the opportunity to discuss the appropriateness of proposed scientific goals. Please contact any of the Core Directors listed below for further information:

- Jeremy Walston, MD, Genetics Core Clinical Director; jwalston@jhmi.edu
- Aravinda Chakravarti, PhD, Genetics Core Leader; aravinda@jhmi.edu
- Dani Fallin, PhD, Genetics Core, Genetic Epidemiology Director; dfallin@jhsph.edu
Johns Hopkins University Claude D. Pepper Older Americans Independence Center (OAIC)

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

1. Title page (Title of project; PI; department and/or school; address; phone number; email address, list of collaborating investigators; budget; starting and ending date for project.

2. Abstract

3. Budget and justification

4. Investigators (PI and collaborating investigators, affiliation, role in project, amount of time to be devoted to this project)

5. Biographical sketch of investigators (NIH format)

6. Other support (For PI only)-list all projects providing support with name of PI.

7. Research Plan (not to exceed page 5 pages for sections a-d)
   a. Hypotheses and specific aims
   b. Background and significance of the research (including relevance to the OAIC)
   c. Preliminary information if applicable (should demonstrate ability to perform the research)
   d. Research design and methods (describe subject selection, data collection, research procedures/measures, analysis plan, timetable for completion)
   e. Literature citations (limit 20)
   f. Human Studies (describe plans for obtaining informed consent and procedures for informing and protecting subjects to be enrolled in the study if applicable)

If you have any questions, a contact person is listed within each RFP.

Please submit applications via e-mail attachment (WORD Format) to bbuta1@jhmi.edu.

APPLICATIONS DUE BY 5pm, on designated date within each RFP.