



Request for Information (RFI): Additional Research Opportunities to be considered

By JDRF Canadian Clinical Trial Network (JDRF CCTN)

Purpose

JDRF Canadian Clinical Trial Network (JDRF CCTN) is a platform for clinical research in Southern Ontario to test new treatments and technologies for type 1 diabetes. JDRF CCTN is pleased to explore all additional research opportunities that can be implemented using the JDRF CCTN structure. These opportunities may include partnerships with additional institutions, investigators, and industry.

Background

JDRF CCTN is an effort to accelerate the development of new treatments and technologies for the management, care and cure of type 1 diabetes.

JDRF CCTN brings together Canada's top physicians, scientists, researchers and innovators from leading hospitals, academic medical centers and industry, with a mission to:

- create an improved, nationwide infrastructure for diabetes clinical trials in Canada, to enable greater clinical trial capacity;
- conduct advanced clinical trials of leading-edge treatments and technologies for diabetes;
- provide Canadians with diabetes access to the latest diabetes breakthroughs via participating in clinical trials; and
- create new partnerships between academic researchers, non-profit organizations, industry and government to accelerate a cure.

Current participating institutions in JDRF CCTN include: Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario; The Hospital for Sick Children; Lawson Health Research Institute; Ottawa Hospital Research Institute; Robarts Clinical Trials; The University Health Network; The University of Waterloo; and University of Western Ontario. JDRF CCTN Clinical Operations Centre is at Robarts Clinical Trials. Additional information about participating investigators is available at <http://cctn.jdrf.ca/people.html>.

In the next few months, JDRF CCTN will launch clinical trials, related to the use of continuous glucose monitors in various type 1 diabetes settings; to the prevention of diabetes complications in adolescents and in adults with type 1 diabetes; to the evaluation of methods to transition from adolescent to adult care; and to the identification and intervention in asymptomatic celiac disease in type 1 diabetes. A list of currently enrolling JDRF CCTN trials is available at <http://cctn.jdrf.ca/enrolling.html>.

JDRF funds research that address significant gaps and challenges for the following general long-term goals:

1. Eliminating immune-mediated destruction of beta cells and inducing/restoring durable immunoregulation to preserve residual insulin-secreting cells in established, recent-onset, or at-risk type 1 diabetes.
2. Restoring euglycemia and insulin independence by activating endogenous beta cell regeneration or reprogramming other cells to become functional glucose-responsive, insulin-secreting cells and promoting survival of residual and newly generated beta cells.



3. Restoring euglycemia and insulin independence by transplanting a replenishable source of glucose-responsive insulin-secreting cells in the absence of chronic immunosuppression.
4. Preventing onset of beta cell-specific autoimmunity or insulin dependence in the at-risk and prediabetes setting.
5. Identifying and validating prognostic and predictive type 1 diabetes immune and beta cell biomarkers to aid clinical development and clinical trials.
6. Preventing, arresting, treating, and reversing complications of diabetes.
7. Improving/restoring glucose regulation with device (closed loop artificial pancreas systems) and non-device approaches.

JDRF focuses on the following priority research areas:

- Primary and Secondary Prevention
- Antigen-specific Immunotherapies and Vaccines
- Beta cell health, Survival and Regeneration
- Encapsulation of Alternative Beta Cells
- Biomarkers-staging, Prognostic and Predictive
- Diabetic Eye Disease
- Prevention of Complications
- Artificial Pancreas Systems
- Glucose-modulating Agents
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Additional descriptions of the priority research areas are available on http://www.jdrf.org/index.cfm?page_id=114356.

Information Requested

To ensure a thorough and comprehensive evaluation of additional research opportunities in Southern Ontario made possible by the JDRF CCTN platform, responses are sought from the research community, including scientists, clinicians, scientific societies, academic institutions, and the general public.

Please identify research opportunities in Southern Ontario that you believe are worthy of consideration by JDRF CCTN.

1. These opportunities may be clinical trials or studies, ancillary studies, or studies of new treatments and technologies.
2. Opportunities may include pre-clinical research with direct potential to lead to clinical trials.
3. Opportunities that include industry partners will be given special consideration.
4. Opportunities that build upon or extend ongoing JDRF CCTN activities are welcome.
5. Current funding restrictions limit these opportunities to Southern Ontario, defined as including the following 2006 Statistic Canada Census Divisions: 1 Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry; 2 Prescott and Russell; 6 Ottawa; 7 Leeds and Grenville; 9 Lanark; 10 Frontenac; 11 Lennox and Addington; 12 Hastings; 13 Prince Edward; 14 Northumberland; 15 Peterborough; 16 Kawartha Lakes; 18 Durham; 19 York; 20 Toronto; 21 Peel; 22 Dufferin; 23 Wellington; 24 Halton; 25 Hamilton; 26 Niagara; 28 Haldimand-Norfolk; 29 Brant; 30 Waterloo; 31 Perth; 32 Oxford; 34 Elgin; 36 Chatham-Kent; 37 Essex; 38 Lambton; 39 Middlesex; 40 Huron; 41 Bruce; 42 Grey; 43 Simcoe; 46 Haliburton; and 47 Renfrew.

Please include a description of the opportunity, a brief explanation of how the opportunity aligns with JDRF's priority research areas, possible participating institutions or investigators, an estimated time frame for implementation, and an estimated budget.



How to Submit a Response

All comments must be submitted electronically to cctnresops@jdrf.ca.

Responses to this RFI will be accepted through to December 5th, 2011. You will receive an electronic confirmation acknowledging receipt of your response, but will not receive individual feedback on any suggestions.

Inquiries

Specific questions about this RFI should be directed to the following individuals:

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