NASPGHAN FOUNDATION/AstraZeneca Research Award
for Disorders of the Upper Gastrointestinal Tract

Submission Deadline: July 1, 2022

This award will provide $75,000 annually for two years (total $150,000) for studies focused on the epidemiology, pathogenesis, natural history, genetics, diagnosis and management of peptic disorders and other diseases of the upper gastrointestinal tract in children. Diseases that are relevant to this announcement include, but are not limited to gastroesophageal reflux, reflux esophagitis, eosinophilic (allergic) esophagitis, motility disorders of the upper gastrointestinal tract, Helicobacter pylori infection with or without ulceration, functional dyspepsia, and non-bacterial ulcer diseases. Applicants at any career level may apply.

GRANT TERM AND STIPULATIONS
Awards of $75,000 per year for two years will be made. Institutional indirect costs are not allowed. A complete financial statement and scientific progress report are required annually. All publications resulting from work supported by the NASPGHAN Foundation must acknowledge support by the relevant funding mechanism. The awardee must attend the NASPGHAN Annual Meeting in Orlando, Florida in October, 2022 to receive the award. The recipient of the award will be asked to present their research findings at the 2024 NASPGHAN Annual Meeting.

ELIGIBILITY

- The principal investigator must be a member in good standing of the North American Society for Pediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition for at least one year at the time of the application. Inclusion of co-investigators or collaborators in other scientific disciplines is encouraged.
- Applicants must hold a faculty position at a North American university or research institute and hold an MD, DO, PhD, MD/PhD or equivalent degree.
- The applicant may not hold funding from any granting agency for a project that has an overlapping scientific objective at the time of the award is made or during the two year period of the award.
- Applications in either the clinical, translational or laboratory sciences are eligible.

REVIEW PROCEDURES
The NASPGHAN Research Committee and potential ad hoc invited experts in the field will review and rank applications for scientific merit and innovation. Competitive applications are expected to have the potential to fundamentally change the field of pediatric gastroenterology, hepatology and nutrition. Projects should test novel and significant hypotheses that, if confirmed, will have substantial impact on the field of pediatric gastroenterology, hepatology or nutrition. Applications from a broad range of inquiry are encouraged. Examples include but are not limited to: new model systems, discovery of drugs or other therapeutic agents, innovative clinical techniques or methodologies, biomedical engineering and computational biology, translational diagnostic or therapeutic advances, cell biology and molecular...
Members of the review panel will follow strict conflict of interest guidelines. Contact between the applicant or sponsors with committee members regarding applications is strictly prohibited and will lead to potential disqualification.
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APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS:

FAILURE TO ADHERE STRICTLY TO THESE GUIDELINES COULD RESULT IN THE DISQUALIFICATION OF YOUR APPLICATION

Completed applications must include the following.

1. A biographical sketch in the most recent NIH format for the PI and all key personnel (https://grants.nih.gov/grants/forms/biosketch.htm). The biosketch should list specific aims of all active research funding to permit an assessment of scientific overlap with the investigator’s existing extramural funding.

2. The research plan structured according to the NIH format as outlined below with 1/2-inch margins. Times New Roman or Arial font no less than 11 point are required. Page limits and style requirements are strictly enforced. (No application more than SIX single spaced pages will be reviewed. References are not included in this maximum page count).

- Scientific Abstract (one page) suitable for use in the public domain should succinctly describe the scope of the proposed research, the study hypothesis, its scientific objectives and the potential for innovation. Relevance of the proposed research to pediatric gastroenterology, hepatology and nutrition should be emphasized. The names and institutional affiliations of the principal investigator and all co-investigators should be tabulated at the end of this page.

- Specific aims (one page);

- Research Strategy (4 pages) including Significance, Innovation, and Approach
  
  (a) Significance

  * Explain the importance of the problem or critical barrier to progress in the field that the proposed project addresses.
  * Explain how the proposed project will improve scientific knowledge, technical capability, and/or clinical practice in one or more broad fields.
  * Describe how the concepts, methods, technologies, treatments, services, or preventative interventions that drive this field will be changed if the proposed aims are achieved.

  (b) Innovation

  * Explain how the application challenges and seeks to shift current research or clinical practice paradigms.
* Describe any novel theoretical concepts, approaches or methodologies, instrumentation or interventions to be developed or used, and any advantage over existing methodologies, instrumentation, or interventions.

* Explain any refinements, improvements, or new applications of theoretical concepts, approaches or methodologies, instrumentation, or interventions.

(c) Approach

* Describe the overall strategy, methodology, and analyses to be used to accomplish the specific aims of the project. Include how the data will be collected, analyzed, and interpreted as well as any resource sharing plans as appropriate.

* Discuss potential problems, alternative strategies, and benchmarks for success anticipated to achieve the aims.

* If the project is in the early stages of development, describe any strategy to establish feasibility, and address the management of any high risk aspects of the proposed work.

* Point out any procedures, situations, or materials that may be hazardous to personnel and precautions to be exercised.

- References

2. A two-year budget must be accompanied by a justification. Salary, equipment, supplies and reasonable travel costs may be budgeted. *Indirect costs are not allowed.*

3. No more than three peer-reviewed manuscripts that are published or accepted for publication are permitted as appendices. Evidence for acceptance such as galley proofs or a letter from the journal editor, of *in press* manuscripts is required.