

SPECIAL THERAPEUTICS PROJECTS FUNDING OPPORTUNITY**January 2016**

**The NIH Center for Accelerated Innovation at Cleveland Clinic (NCAI-CC)
announces the Request for Applications (RFA) for a special targeted funding opportunity**

For Cleveland Clinic, Case Western Reserve University, The Ohio State University,
Cincinnati Children's Hospital and University of Cincinnati

The RFA can be downloaded from www.ncai-cc.ccf.org.

The goal of this special funding opportunity is to identify, select, and advance qualified drug development projects directed towards treatment or management of cardiovascular, pulmonary, blood or sleep-related disorders.

This funding opportunity is specifically targeted and limited to therapeutics technologies (drugs/biologics).

The project activity appropriate for this funding opportunity is identification and qualification of a lead compound from among a series or class of hit compounds that have been tested for activity in one or more validation assays for the disease, which appear to be chemically stable and able to be synthesized, and for which a composition of matter (new chemical entity) patent filing is appropriate.

The scope of work for the project may include activities such as:

- Design or synthesis of new analogs to support structure activity relationship testing.
- Testing potency/activity in in-vitro efficacy assays.
- Demonstrating specific selectivity against targets.
- Determining in vitro Absorption, Metabolism, Distribution, Excretion, Toxicity (ADMET) properties for select analogs in the series.
- Conducting preliminary pharmacokinetic or pharmacodynamic (PK/PD) assessment.

The key outcome is to select a lead compound (or at most a few compounds) that are ready to enter the lead optimization phase of drug discovery. Upon successful completion of work under this project level, it is expected that the technology can qualify for additional technology development funding.

Projects will be reviewed on the following criteria: eligibility (fit for this funding opportunity, appropriate phase of development, feasibility), clinical need or opportunity, potential for commercial success, and project plan.

Timeline:

January 11, 2016.	RFA Released.
March 3, 2016.	Application Submissions due.
April 2016.	Award Notifications.

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The next cycle of the regular NCAI-CC Technology Funding Program will be launched in July 2016.