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August 29, 2014

To: Service Chiefs
All Faculty

Subject: Solicitation for NYP ECRIP 2015-2017 Applications, **DUE September 29, 2014**

The NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital (NYP) is soliciting applications for the New York State Empire Clinical Research Investigator Program (ECRIP). ECRIP funds are intended to develop physicians as clinical and health services/outcomes investigators. Below is additional information on ECRIP eligibility, scope and application process. We are asking your innovative ideas for this unique opportunity.

Eligibility

NYP will be applying institutionally for ECRIP Center awards. All physician applications must be submitted through the Hospital. The State will **not** accept **individual applications** from physicians affiliated with NYP/Weill Cornell Medical Center or NYP/Columbia University Medical Center.

Scope

ECRIP Center awards are two-year grants intended to promote the development of clinician researchers. The Hospital will be submitting 2-4 project applications to the State for the ECRIP Center awards. Each project must have an ECRIP research team lead by a qualified project director and comprised of mentors, sponsors and ECRIP research fellows. Applications must be centered around themes that do not currently receive federal center funding such as an NIH Program Project Grant (P-type) or a Cooperative Agreement (U-type).

The project director will sponsor or mentor one project and coordinate the research team's activities. The project director must be a Principal Investigator (PI) or Co-Principal Investigator (Co-PI) of an active federal agency research grant. The other project sponsors/mentors must also have been a PI or Co-PI of federal research grants within two years of the ECRIP deadline.

ECRIP research fellows must be residents or graduates of residency programs (including junior faculty) who are able to work on original translational, clinical, and health services research projects. Additionally, ECRIP research fellows must be a United States or Canadian citizen or national, or permanent resident of the United States or Canada. Lastly, fellows must be able to spend at least 35 hours per week on the project.

The research theme must represent a strategically important growth area for NYP AND be associated with one or more federal funding opportunities. NYP's strategic growth areas include: Improving Quality, Outcomes and Patient Satisfaction; Developing and Testing Innovations in

Healthcare Delivery; Improving Population Health through Care Coordination, Data Analytics and Application of New Delivery Models; Patient Engagement; Enhancing Access; Improving Efficiency; Effective Application of Information Technology; Translational Research and Personalized Medicine; and Alignment with Weill Cornell Medical College/Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons Strategic Goals. Interested physicians should ensure that their project applications both are associated with a federal funding opportunity and support NYP's strategic priorities. In addition, NYP encourages physicians to propose projects that could leverage training provided by the Clinical and Translational Science Award (CTSA) program on their respective campus.

ECRIP funding may only be used for: Salary and fringe benefits for ECRIP fellows; Educational expenses, including formalized instruction (e.g., tuition, fees, materials); Travel expenses; Supplies and minor equipment to conduct research (maximum of \$10,000 per item); Publications and research coordination expenses; and Mentors, Project Director, other support services, and administrative expenses.

Application Process

The NYP Review Committee will review physicians' ECRIP applications based on the following criteria: Satisfaction of the State's criteria (available via website below); Significance of project from a public health perspective; Relevance to NYP's strategic growth areas and alignment with Weill Cornell Medical College/Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons Strategic Goals; Degree of innovativeness; and Likelihood of future funding.

ECRIP Center applications are due to the NYP Review Committee by 5:00 p.m. on September 29, 2014. Applications must be submitted on the attached forms according to the prescribed guidelines. Completed applications must be emailed to Nairobi Russell (nac9021@nyp.org, 212-342-1544).

Applicants should address questions to Richard Liebowitz, MD (rsl9002@nyp.org), Harold Pincus, MD (hap9015@nyp.org), or Ahema Asare (aha9009@nyp.org, 212.305.3990). More information on ECRIP and a copy of the application are available here:

http://www.health.ny.gov/professionals/doctors/graduate_medical_education/ecrip/

ECRIP APPLICATION TIMELINE

ACTIVITY	DATE
Application Due to NYP Review Committee	September 29, 2014
Application Review Process	September 29, 2014-October 10, 2014
Application Due to NYSDOH	October 16, 2014 (To be submitted by NYP but will require availability of selected PIs in case additional details are needed)
Anticipated Award Announcement	December 2014
Anticipated Start Date for Projects	April 1, 2015 no later than December 31, 2015. Research fellows must be hired and begin their ECRIP training within these dates.

NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Empire Clinical Research Investigator Program (ECRIP)

Project Abstract

Submit requested information in the order indicated below, labeled by section and question number/heading using a 12 point font document format for all responses. Responses should be clear, concise, comprehensive, organized and include only relevant detail addressing the specific question. (Do not include these written instructions with your abstract.)

Applications must include a letter of support from the applicant's department chairperson.

ECRIP project abstracts must be submitted electronically (in Microsoft Word or PDF format) to Nairobi Russell at nac9021@nyp.org by 5:00 p.m. on Monday, September 29, 2014.

Name/Department of Project Director: _____

Project Theme: _____

Choose one of the following NYP's strategic priorities as the project theme:

Improving Quality; Outcomes and Patient Satisfaction; Developing and Testing Innovations in Healthcare Delivery; Improving Population Health through Care Coordination; Data Analytics and Application of New Delivery Models; Patient Engagement; Enhancing Access; Improving Efficiency; Effective Application of Information Technology; Translational Research and Personalized Medicine.

Name of Project: _____

Section A. Funding

Any costs associated with the project in excess of the funding amounts described below are expected to be supported by the institution.

Center Projects

These two-year Center Awards are intended to promote the development of clinician researchers while providing seed funding for new federal center-type funding. Center Award amounts will be based on the number of Individual and Center Projects funded. The total annual funding for the program in 2015-16 is \$ 8.6 million. Individual Awards would be first determined. Any remaining funds will be applied to Center projects and equally divided among all qualified teaching hospitals that meet program requirements. For example, if 30 teaching hospitals are eligible to receive Individual Awards for \$75,000 then \$2.25 million will be distributed for Individual Awards. The remaining balance of \$6.35 million will be available for Center Awards. Then, if 20 teaching hospitals are eligible to receive Center Awards, the \$6.35 million will be equally distributed to those 20 institutions and each will receive an award of \$317,500 annually. Please note that under this example, since no Center Award is \$400,000 or more, no secondary projects will be supported by the State. However, if only 10 institutions are eligible for a primary award and each receives \$635,000 annually, then the State may support eligible secondary projects within the same \$635,000 awarded to the institution. For every \$100,000 annually in State funding, the institution would be required to train at least one research fellow. DOH will require a detailed budget for the entire project after awards are made and prior to the distribution of funds.

All Center Projects must include a \$100,000 match, per year, by the institution with real (not in-kind) funds. The abstract **must** include a letter from the institution demonstrating their commitment and source of these funds. *(This letter will be provided by NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital.)*

NOTE: NYP has elected to apply ONLY for the Center Award program.

Center projects may begin as early as April 1, 2015, but must begin no later than December 31, 2015. Research fellows must be hired and begin their ECRIP training within these dates.

Section B. Research Project Information

1. Type of Clinical Research:

Indicate the type of clinical research that will be addressed in the research project: Patient – Oriented, Epidemiologic, Behavioral Studies, Outcome Research, Health Services Research or Translational Research.

2. Research Project (500 word limit):

Identify a research theme topic (in layman’s terms) and project title for the proposed research project. No projects that have previously received ECRIP support will be funded. For Center Projects, a theme may not be one that currently has federal center-type funding (e.g., NIH P01 or U19 grants) at the institution. The research theme should represent a strategically important growth area for the institution, associated with one or more federal funding opportunities with a realistic project timeline outlined in questions 6 and 11.

3. Research Project Summary and Objective(s) (500 word limit):

Provide a clear and comprehensive summary with sufficient detail about the research project objectives, hypotheses to be tested and state what is intended to be accomplished through the research. Include the significance of the site(s) in the project. Also, note if the project is part of a larger study at your institution indicate, how these projects relate to each other and include funding sources and other details.

4. Research Project Background (500 word limit):

Provide background information on the research project. Include the scientific relevance and the health implications of the research project, as well as the need for this type of research.

5. Describe Data and Methodology (500 word limit):

Explain the necessary methods for collecting, analyzing and reporting the data to proceed with the research project. Include how patients will be identified for the research and the number and length of time patients will be involved in the research. Also describe the contact methods the researcher will have with the patients and any control group, if applicable. Such data and methodology should be statistically valid, rigorous and consistent to the project objective(s).

6. Project Timeline (500 word limit):

Provide a timeline for the entire project, including a breakdown of the tasks, project deliverables and major project milestones indicated on a periodic (such as quarterly) basis. Include information for both years of the project, if applicable. Center projects may begin as early as April 1, 2015, but must begin no later than December 31, 2015. Research fellows must be hired and begin their ECRIP training within these dates.

7. Research Fellow(s) Tasks and Locations (500 word limit):

Provide a description of the specific tasks the research fellow(s) will perform during the research project and the overall responsibilities he/she/they will have in advancement of their research capabilities. Include the locations of these tasks if the research fellow(s) is training at multiple sites. Note that the research fellow(s) must spend a substantial portion of their research training at the teaching hospital that is submitting this abstract, in addition to training at any other site(s). Include anticipated seminars or conferences that the research fellow(s) will be participating in related to this project.

8. Project Expected Measurable Outcomes (500 word limit):

Provide the measurable outcomes that you expect to obtain through this research project. This should be provided as results reported at scientific meetings and in peer-reviewed journals.

9. Tracking of the Career Development of Participating Researcher Fellow(s) (500 word limit):

Describe the methods, sources and systems that the institution will use to track the career development of the participating research fellow(s) to determine if the physician(s) pursued a career in research.

10. Significance of Research: (500 word limit):

Describe how this project will modify or add to the body of knowledge within the area of research and could significantly impact the health of people specifically residing in New York State

11. Future Funding: (500 word limit):

Identify realistic subsequent federal or other sources the institution will target for future research project funding, including timeframes, based on this research project.

Section C. Project Director & Research Sponsor -Mentor(s) Information

1. Project Director/ Sponsor-Mentor Information (500 word limit per person):

- (a) Provide name, address, phone numbers (office and cell) and email address of an individual who is responsible for the overall project (project director) and all individuals who are responsible for sponsoring-mentoring research fellows at all sites. Note that the director may also be a sponsor/mentor. A sponsor/mentor can train up to a maximum of two research P fellows from all institutions at one time.
- (b) Indicate which federal research or PCORI grant (that is also included in the bio-sketch) qualifies the project director to meet the ECRIP program requirement. For Center Projects, the project director must have been a principal investigator (PI) or Co-PI of a federal research or PCORI grant that ended no earlier than October 2012. Include the Notice of Grant Award or other documentation to demonstrate proof of the PI or Co-PI status. If the project director was a subcontractor within a multi-site grant, provide a budget justification or other appropriate documentation to demonstrate overall responsibility and budget authority for the research at the site and substantial involvement in the development of the overall multi-site project beyond enrolling research participants. The project director must substantially work or practice at the teaching hospital that is submitting the abstract. Non-research grants or grants for conferences or for commercial product development are excluded.

2. Project Director and Sponsor/Mentor(s) Bio-sketch Information:

Using the attached bio-sketch format, provide education, training, position, honors and publications in peer-reviewed publications (in chronological order) for each sponsor-mentor(s). Include any papers that included past ECRIP fellows with their names underlined. (Researchers are not required to have mentored or published papers with past ECRIP fellows.) List selected ongoing or completed clinical research projects during the last five years from government and non-governmental support. Begin with the projects that are most relevant to the research in this project abstract. Briefly indicate the overall goals of these past projects and your role (e.g. PI, Co-PI, Co-Investigator, Consultant). List award amounts and percent of effort for these projects. Do not send the researchers entire C.V.

3. Sponsor/Mentor(s) Experience in Mentoring (500 word limit):

For each sponsor/mentor describe experience mentoring researchers, fellows, residents and graduate or medical students. All sponsor-mentors must have mentoring experience for at least one of these graduate levels.

Section D. Research Fellow(s) Information

1. Goals and Objectives for the Research Fellow(s) (500 word limit):

For each research fellow describe the knowledge and training experience expected to be gained by the research fellow(s) in the clinical research project. Such goals and objectives should be clear, reasonable and challenging for the research fellow. Also include the specific role the sponsor-mentor(s) shall provide to the research fellow(s).

2. Qualifications Required for the Research Fellow position(s) (500 word limit):

Provide the qualifications necessary for a physician to be accepted by the institution in order to take part in the research project. In addition, describe the process by which the research fellow(s) long term career interest in clinical research can be evaluated. These should be in addition to the research fellow requirements in the regulations (Clinical research position) that include but are not limited to the following:

- Research fellow(s) must be filled by a physician, dentist or podiatrist who is enrolled in or has completed a residency in any specialty.
- Research fellow(s) shall be: (a) a U.S. citizen; national; **or** permanent resident of the United States; **and** (b) a graduate of a medical (allopathic or osteopathic), dental or podiatric school located in NYS; a resident or graduate of a residency training program sponsored by an institution located in NYS; **or** currently reside in NYS.
- Positions are full-time of no less than 35 hours per week.
- Existing faculty at the institution may participate as a research fellow, provided that such faculty are pursuing career development in clinical research.

3. Formalized Instruction (500 word limit)

Provide information that will ensure that the research fellow has been or will be involved in formalized, instruction, including didactic training, in clinical research, such as clinical trial design, research ethics, course-work in biostatistics and grant writing.

4. Research Fellow Information (if known):

Provide name, address, phone numbers (office and cell) and email address. In no event may a research fellow be hired by the institution after December 31, 2015.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Provide the following information for the Senior/key personnel and other significant contributors.
Follow this format for each person. **DO NOT EXCEED FOUR PAGES FOR PARTS A-D.**

NAME	POSITION TITLE		
ROLE IN PROJECT			
<i>EDUCATION/TRAINING (Begin with baccalaureate or other initial professional education, such as nursing, include postdoctoral training and residency training if applicable.)</i>			
INSTITUTION AND LOCATION	DEGREE <i>(if applicable)</i>	MM/YY	FIELD OF STUDY
	1		

Note – this line and the instructions in italics provided for each section below should be deleted

A. Personal Statement

Briefly describe why your experience and qualifications make you particularly well-suited for your role (e.g., PD/PI, mentor, participating faculty) in the project that is the subject of the application. Include a brief 2-3 sentence description of your Mentor's contribution and your level of independence on the project. Applicants are requested to include a section on how this fellowship would assist in your future research career path. In addition, explain your current job seeking and other research funding situation. For Clinical Fellows, please describe your career path and the relevance of their work to human health. Applicants who received doctoral degrees before July 1, 2008 must explain the reason for the lapse in postdoctoral research experience in the personal statement.

B. Positions and Honors

List in chronological order previous positions, concluding with the present position. List any honors, grants and fellowships. Include recent membership on any Federal Government public advisory committee, including grant study sections.

C. Selected Peer-reviewed Publications

List your most relevant publications (15 max), using the following categories:

- a. Peer-reviewed articles, published or in press (preferred)*
- b. Non peer-reviewed articles such as reviews and book chapters*
- c. Abstracts within the last two years*
- d. Manuscripts in submission*

Citations should include all authors, year, title, journal, volume and inclusive pagination. The applicant's name should be in caps or bolded in the list of authors.

D. Research Support

List ongoing, completed (within last 5 years), and pending research projects (Federal or non-Federally-supported). Indicate sponsor, award identifier number, award period, and project title, using **bold type for the titles of projects most relevant to the research proposed in the application**. Briefly indicate the overall goals of the projects, and your role (e.g., PI, co-investigator, trainee) and responsibilities. List total award amounts and (for mentors) the **award amounts to your laboratory (in bold type)**, as well as your percent effort

E. Mentors only

Please list previous trainees (in last 10 years) with their current positions. Indicate which trainees were **ECRIP Fellows (in bold type)**.

EMPIRE CLINICAL RESEARCH PROGRAM (ECRIP) REGULATORY AND PROGRAM CHANGES & FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Courtesy of the New York State Department of Health Council on Graduate Medical Education (COGME) Website and New York-Presbyterian Hospital

Summary of Draft Proposed Regulatory Changes

1. *Amend eligibility of project directors and sponsor-mentors in teaching hospitals.* These changes: (1) expand eligibility to include the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI) grants for individual and center awards; (2) expand eligibility to include funding from other federal agencies rather than solely from NIH for center awards; (3) adjust the time frame requirement from current awards to awards within the past two years for center awards and reduce the award requirement timeframe from five to three years for individual awards; and (4) exclude non-research grants and grants for conferences or for commercial product development.
2. *Qualification of research fellow.* Removes the provision that physicians who are currently or have been funded by the teaching hospital within the past three years are not eligible to be a research fellow.

2014 Program Changes

3. A hospital may not change the project theme after submission but may submit a change to the plan (such as a new director, etc.) after the project is awarded, either prior to or after the start date. Any changes would require DOH review and approval and must meet the program requirements. If the project is deemed to be out of compliance, then any portion of such funds may be evenly redistributed to the remaining Center projects only.
4. The abstract outline includes a requirement that a Notice of Grant Award or other documentation be provided to demonstrate proof of the principal investigator (PI), co-PI or co-investigator status relating to a federal research or PCORI grant. Such investigators who were subcontractors within a multi-site grant is permissible, provided a budget justification or other appropriate documentation is included to demonstrate overall responsibility and budget authority for the research at the site and substantial involvement in the development of the overall multi-site project beyond enrolling research participants. The abstract outline also includes a requirement to clearly note which federal research or PCORI grant qualifies such investigator as an ECRIP project director or sponsor-mentor.
5. Allow teaching hospitals to include more than one sponsor-mentor, provided that the project director that meets the federal research or PCORI grant requirements substantially works or practices at the teaching hospital that is submitting the abstract. In addition, if the research fellow is training at any other site(s), a sponsor-mentor must be identified and provide direct supervision to the research fellow at each site.

6. Require that the hospital that submitted the abstract provide a substantial portion of the research fellowship training at that hospital, in addition to training at any other site(s). Also, the abstract should include the significance of all sites for training the research fellow(s).
7. Allow existing faculty at the institution to participate as a research fellow, provided that such faculty are pursuing career development in clinical research. ECRIP fellow positions are full-time of no less than 35 hours per week.
8. A sponsor/mentor can train up to a maximum of two research fellows at one time.
9. Abstract must identify subsequent federal or other sources targeted for future research project funding since a key purpose of ECRIP is to lay the groundwork for future federal funding.
10. All existing budget guidelines and allowable cost information are now available on the website. Budgets are still required after awards are made.
11. Carefully review Clinical Research Position in the draft proposed regulation. This section includes the minimum requirements of the research fellow, including (but not limited to): that the position shall not be required in order for the research fellow to complete a graduate medical education program; and that the position shall exceed the minimum standards that are required by the residency review committee in the specialty the research fellow has trained or is currently training. A research fellowship cannot be used for credit toward completion of any GME residency program requirement.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. **Can an individual physician submit an abstract directly to DOH?**
No. The State will not accept individual applications from physicians affiliated with NYP/Weill Cornell Medical Center or NYP/Columbia University Medical Center.
2. **Should abstracts include letters of support?**
Yes, all applications must include letters of support from an applicant's department chairperson.
3. **Can an abstract include tables and charts?**
Yes, but all information will be included in the word limits.
4. **Are junior faculty members eligible to be the research fellows?**
Yes, provided they meet the program requirements.
5. **Can sponsor/mentors be from a different institution other than the teaching hospital?**
Yes, provided that the sponsor/mentor provides direct supervision to the research fellow and meets all program requirements to act as a sponsor/mentor.
6. **Must the research fellow have attended medical school or GME in New York State?**
A research fellow must: (a) be enrolled or have completed a graduate medical education program, (b) be a United States or Canadian citizen or national, or be a permanent resident of the United States or Canada; and (c) ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:
 - be a graduate of a medical, dental or podiatric school located in New York State
 - be a graduate of or resident in a graduate medical education program where the sponsoring institution is located in New York State
 - reside in New York State by October, 2014
7. **Are Co-Investigators allowed for Center Applications?**
Co-Investigators are not allowed for the Center Awards.
8. **Are T, K and KM1 awards accepted as federally funded research for sponsor/mentors?**
Yes, these awards are accepted as federally funded research as long as the individual was the mentor.
9. **How many sponsors/mentors can a Center have?**
A Center can have as many sponsors/mentors as needed in order to provide direct supervision of the research fellows.

NYP Application Specific Information

PROJECT ABSTRACT - Sec C. Ques 2. Sponsor/Mentor(s) Bio-sketch Information

Using the attached bio-sketch format, provide education, training, position, honors and publications in peer-reviewed publications (in chronological order) for each sponsor-mentor(s). Include any papers that included past ECRIP fellows with their names underlined. (Researchers are not required to have mentored or published papers with past ECRIP fellows.) List selected ongoing or completed clinical research projects during the last five years from government and non-governmental support. Begin with the projects that are most relevant to the research in this project abstract. Briefly indicate the overall goals of these past projects and your role (e.g. PI, Co-PI, Co-Investigator, Consultant). List award amounts and percent of effort for these projects. Do not send the researchers entire C.V.

The New York and Presbyterian Hospital past ECRIP Fellows and ECRIP Center Directors are listed below:

Carolyn Rodriguez, MD
John Rausch, MD
Maria Kwok, MD
Rachel Campbell, MD
Natalie Neu, MD
Joshua Kantrowitz, MD
Thuy-Tien Dam, MD
Shulamit Lerner, MD
Snezana Nena Osorio, MD
Anupama Subramony, MD
Sharda D. Ramsaroop, MD
Victor Brodsky, MD
Jane S. Lee, MD
Minisha Kochar, MD
Andrew Moran, MD
Anupam Kharbanda, MD
Erika Abramson, MD
Brandon Aden, MD
Peter Henderson, MD
Rimda Wanchoo, MD
Emily Stein, MD
Errol Gordon, MD
Timothy Martens, MD
Meredith Kato, MD
Alice Lee, MD
Allison Weber, MD
Elaine Cheng, MD
George Comas, MD
Mark J Russo, MD
Angelo Biviano, MD
Nina Shah, MD

Charles Powell, MD
Elizabeth Lozada-Pastorio, MD
Barry Shea, MD
Vivian Sobel, MD
Luke Kim, MD
Xun-Rong Luo, MD
Ji Chong, MD
Janice Muir, MD
Jay Kadam, MD
Kevin David, MD
Lawrence Cicchiello, MD
William Mack, MD
Peter Stetson, MD
Stevan Gonzales, MD
Timothy Martens, MD
Mathew Geddis, MD
Kellie McCormick-Hallam, MD
Ali Gharavi, MD
Mark Lachs, MD
Ari Melnick, MD
Karina Davidson, MD
Marc Foca, MD
Abeer Hassoun, MD
Marcella Walker, MD