SINGAPORE STEM CELL CONSORTIUM (SSCC)
CALL FOR PROPOSALS – PIVOTAL PRE-CLINICAL STUDIES

Introduction

The Singapore Stem Cell Consortium (SSCC) is an initiative of the A*STAR Biomedical Research Council (BMRC) with the aim of establishing a coordinated and focused translational research and development programme in stem cells. It seeks to catalyze the translation of basic stem cell research into clinically viable stem cell therapies for chronic, debilitating diseases, by building strong linkages between basic science and clinical research groups. It aspires to develop enabling platform technologies for eventual therapeutic use of stem cell research. It also has an interest in using stem cells to create models of mammalian development and disease states, as well as providing cellular assays for the identification of novel signaling molecules, pathways, and the development of new drugs. The SSCC is now inviting research proposals for pivotal pre-clinical studies using stem cell populations and or their derivatives which will hopefully act as a prelude to human clinical trials. It would be expected that such studies will follow earlier, successful animal trials, unless there were special circumstances that rendered such trials uninformative.

The objectives of this grant call are to be achieved through innovative, collaborative, inter- and multi-disciplinary investigations.

Eligibility

All investigators who hold a primary appointment in a Singapore public institution (including restructured hospitals, national centres, research institutes, and local universities) are eligible to apply. PI should be physically present, carrying out research work in Singapore for at least 9 months of the year. There should only be one Principal Investigator (PI) who will be responsible for coordinating any team effort and managing the grant award. This PI should not be based in an A*STAR Institute. The research must be conducted in Singapore. The application must be collaborative in nature. Inter-institutional collaborations would be preferred over intra-institutional collaborations.

Review Process

There will be a two-tier process to this grant call. Applicants are to submit a full proposal for international peer review and final evaluation by the SSCC Local Review Panel. The review process will take about 8 weeks.

Funding

Average funding per grant is about S$0.5M up to a maximum limit of S$1M. Grant Period is usually three (3) years contingent upon satisfactory progress as assessed during annual reviews.

Application

Application form can be downloaded from the following websites: www.a-star.edu.sg.

The submission must comprise the endorsed original application form and its soft copy (Word format) through the Host Institution’s Research Office. Applications must be submitted to Singapore Stem Cell Consortium c/o IMB, 8A Biomedical Grove, #06-06 Immunos Singapore 138648 Attn: Ms Rajindar Kaur Email: rajindar.kaur@imb.a-star.edu.sg

Closing Date

The closing date for application is 19 March 2010, 5.00pm.