

Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation (PM&R)
Call for Proposals
Fall 2023

Project Period November 1, 2023– October 31, 2024

The objective of this program is to enhance the value of pilot research conducted within the Department to accomplish five objectives:

- Facilitate interdisciplinary collaboration. Collaborations can be with those within or outside the Department of PM&R
- Facilitate research aimed at increasing understanding regarding factors associated with negative functional outcomes and decreased access to care among underserved rehabilitation populations
- Improve the health outcomes of the rehabilitation population
- Enhance the patient experience of care (including quality, access, and reliability)
- Provide departmental researchers the opportunity to collect quality data to leverage future funding

2023 Submission Dates	
Call for Proposals	September 15, 2023
Applications Due	October 9, 2023
Awards Announced	October 27, 2023
Project Start Date	November 1, 2023
Mid-year progress	April 30, 2024
Final Report	November 1, 2024

Funds Available: Applicants may request funding for a maximum of 1 year. The budget may not exceed \$10,000 per project year. Each study will be eligible to receive 0.25 FTE in department designated research assistant effort in addition to the award budget for the initial budget period. All funding is contingent upon available funds and may be adjusted or discontinued at the discretion of the Research Oversight Committee (ROC).

Principal Investigator Eligibility: Principal Investigator (PI) Eligibility: Any faculty member (research track or research series) with a primary or secondary appointment to the Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation is eligible to apply. Affiliate faculty with a secondary appointment in PM&R are also eligible. Review Oversight Committee (ROC) members submitting proposals may be ineligible to review applications during that cycle. New investigators may be required to identify a mentor.

Proposal Process:

- Proposal Process Applicants are invited to submit one proposal as the PI per submission period. Multiple awards will not be awarded to one PI in one calendar year.
- Members of the PM&R Research Oversight Committee (ROC) will review applications and announce awards.
- Each award will be for one year of funding and will be administered by the PM&R Research Team.



- Progress reports will be due semiannually from the start of the award. Data reviewed will determine if goals and objectives are being met. The ROC reserves the right to review funding if the awarded PI does not make sufficient progress towards meeting deliverables.

Proposal Guidance

Proposals submitted should support work that is consistent with the Anschutz Medical Campus mission and the PM&R mission, values, and goals.

Mission - Anschutz Medical Campus: The University of Colorado Denver | Anschutz Medical Campus is a diverse teaching and learning community that creates, discovers and applies knowledge to improve the health and well-being of Colorado and the world. This is accomplished via education, research, clinical care and service to community. The mission, values, and goals of the Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, Anschutz Medical Campus, are consistent with that of the Anschutz Medical Campus. Specifically, research conducted within the Department should: 1) improve the health of populations seeking care from PM&R professionals; and/or 2) enhance patient care experiences.

- Funds may not be requested for work that is already completed, only for the proposed work or work in progress. Completed studies are ineligible for funding.
- Applicants are strongly encouraged to discuss proposal with their research mentor or member of the ROC before submitting an application.
- All projects are required to be completed within one year. However, a one-time no-cost extension may be granted by the ROC.

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Please use the following format (with page limits) for the submission:

1. **Abstract: (one-half page limit).** Provide a brief overview of the proposal by summarizing sections 2-5 below.
2. **Specific Aims (1 page limit).** State concisely the goals of the proposed research and summarize the expected outcome(s), including the impact that the results of the proposed research will have on the research field(s) involved. List succinctly the specific objectives of the research proposed, e.g., to test a stated hypothesis, create a novel design, solve a specific problem, challenge an existing paradigm or clinical practice, address a critical barrier to progress in the field, or develop new technology. State the project's immediate goals in terms of the improvement in relevant outcomes, with a particular focus on how they are related to the departmental mission, values, and goals.
3. **Background and Preliminary Studies (2 page limit).** Summarize work previously conducted in this area with a focus on highlighting why the proposed research is the next logical step in this line of study. Cite published or reported projects that are relevant to the proposed project. Provide background information to support the potential benefit of this project to the department and to the rehabilitation community as a whole.



Use this section to provide an account of the PI's preliminary studies pertinent to this application, including his/her preliminary experience with and outreach to the proposed racial/ethnic group members, when relevant.

4. **Hypotheses (1 page limit).** Clearly state the project hypotheses.
5. **Research Design and Methods (Setting/Population/Recruitment Strategies/Data Collection Methods/Statistical Analysis Plan including Calculation of Sample Size) (up to 6 pages).**
Describe the research design conceptual or clinical framework, procedures, and analyses to be used to accomplish the specific aims of the project. Include how the data will be collected, analyzed, and interpreted. Describe any new methodology and its advantage over existing methodologies. Describe any novel concepts, approaches, tools, or technologies for the proposed studies. Discuss the potential difficulties and limitations of the proposed procedures and alternative approaches to achieve the aims. As part of this section, provide a tentative sequence or timetable for the project. Point out any procedures, situations, or materials that may be hazardous to personnel and the precautions that will be ensured to avoid harm.
6. **Key Personnel (1 page limit).** Provide a brief description of Key Personnel on the project and their roles and responsibilities. **Please highlight interdisciplinary collaborations among team members.** NIH formatted biographical sketches should also be provided for all Key Personnel. Please note NIH has a new biosketch format. <https://grants.nih.gov/grants/forms/biosketch.htm>
7. **Budget/ Budget Justification (no page limit).** The anticipated costs of the project should be calculated, including detailed items needed to carry out the project along with a description of the benefit for each item to the project. Justification of PRA support should be included.
8. **Timeline (1 page limit).** Develop a timeline for the project which includes: project tasks, time for completion and responsible parties assigned.
9. **Human Subjects – include only if applicable – if exempt please justify (no page limit).** Include the following information: Risk to Human Subjects; Adequacy of Protection Against Risks; Potential Benefits of the Proposed Research to Human Subjects and Others; Importance of the Knowledge to be Gained; and, Data and Safety Monitoring Plan. http://grants.nih.gov/grants/funding/424/SupplementalInstructions.pdf#Part_II
10. **Vertebrate Animals – include only if applicable (no page limit).** Although there is no specific page limitation, be succinct: 1) Provide a detailed description of the proposed use of the animals. Identify the species, strains, ages, sex, and numbers of animals to be used in the proposed work; 2) Justify the use of animals, the choice of species, and the numbers to be used. If animals are in short supply, costly, or to be used in large numbers, provide an additional rationale for their selection and numbers; 3) Provide information on the veterinary care of the animals involved; 4) Describe the procedures for ensuring that discomfort, distress, pain, and injury will be limited to that which is unavoidable in the conduct of scientifically sound research; and, 5) Describe any method of euthanasia to be used and the reasons for its selection. State whether this method is consistent with the recommendations of the Panel on Euthanasia of the American Veterinary Medical Association.
11. **Bibliography (no page limit).**
12. **Appendices (no page limit).** Appendices may include: 1) Up to a total of 3 publications as PDF attachments; and 2) Surveys, questionnaires, data collection instruments, clinical protocols, and informed consent documents may be submitted as PDF attachments.

Proposal abstracts should be submitted by email to: Lauren.B.Collins@cuanschutz.edu
Questions regarding the application may be directed to: Lisa.2.Brenner@cuanschutz.edu