



## REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS: Duke/UNC ADRC Norins Pilot Awards

The **purpose** of these \$50,000 pilot awards is to stimulate and support collaborative, innovative research on the potential role of microbes or pathogens in the development of Alzheimer's disease (AD).

Successful applications will propose feasible projects or experiments to test specific hypotheses, generate strong preliminary data, or develop a critical resource to advance this field of inquiry. All types of research, from any point along the translational spectrum, are welcome. Topics of interest include, but are not limited to:

- Associations between specific pathogens or microbiomes and AD risk
- Advancement of new models to investigate the role of microbes or pathogens in AD
- Understanding the consequences of infections or antimicrobials on AD or markers of AD risk

For more information on key gaps and high priority topics related to the potential role of infection, microbes, and inflammation in Alzheimer's disease, view recording of recent symposium: [Duke/UNC ADRC 2021 Symposium](#)

### Eligibility and funding considerations:

- 1) Principal investigator (PI) must be a Duke University faculty member or postdoctoral fellow (MD or PhD)
- 2) Research should be collaborative and teams must include at least one of the following
  - Inter-disciplinary or inter-institution collaborations
  - Substantial involvement of a mentored student or trainee, or an early stage investigator (ESI)
  - Individuals from traditionally under-represented groups in research (as [defined by NIH](#))

### Timeline and Application Materials

- Letters of intent (LOI) are due **July 12**. LOIs may not exceed 2 pages (at least 11-point font) and should specify: 1) the principal investigator and team members and affiliations; 2) objective and rationale for the proposed work, 3) brief description of proposed methodology and team's ability to conduct the research, 4) explanation of how successful completion of the proposed project would fill an existing gap related to the hypothesis that microbes or pathogens may play a role in AD.
- Following review of LOIs, teams will be notified by **Aug 2** if a full application is invited
- If requested, full applications will be due **Sept 20** and must include:
  - Specific Aims page (1 page) + Research Strategy (5 page maximum, not including references)
  - Human subjects or vertebrate animal section, if applicable
  - NIH style biosketches of all team members
  - Plan to promote resource sharing and open science
  - Budget and budget justification, not to exceed \$50,000 in direct costs. Projects with a one- or two-year timeline may be proposed.
- We expect to fund at least two awards. Funding decisions will be announced by **Nov 8**, with funding available **Dec 1, 2021**

### To apply

LOIs should be submitted by uploading to [this secure online portal](#). Letters must be received no later than 11:59pm on July 12, 2021. Please address inquiries to Heather Whitson ([heather.whitson@duke.edu](mailto:heather.whitson@duke.edu)).

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