

FLIGHT ATTENDANT MEDICAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE, INC.



CLINICAL INNOVATOR AWARDS PROGRAM

REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS

Proposals and Tobacco Disclosure Statements Due: 5 PM EDT September 11, 2009

Full instructions for on-line submission will be available at
www.famri.org August 3, 2009

Introduction to Flight Attendant Medical Research Institute (FAMRI)

In October of 1991, flight attendants and their survivors brought a Class Action suit in Dade County Circuit Court (Miami) against the tobacco industry seeking damages for the diseases and deaths that have been caused by their exposure to second hand tobacco smoke in airline cabins. The Class Action lawsuit filed by Miami attorneys Stanley M. Rosenblatt and Susan Rosenblatt resulted in a partial settlement in October 1997 after four months of trial which created FAMRI and provided other substantial benefits to class members.

FAMRI was formally established under the laws of Florida and Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Other than the initial funding, FAMRI has no connection with any tobacco company. FAMRI is governed and directed by a Board of Trustees, including flight attendants, appointed by class counsel, Stanley and Susan Rosenblatt. A Medical Advisory Board and a Lay Advisory Board assist FAMRI in its decision-making. FAMRI's Medical Advisory Board is listed below:

David Sidransky, MD, Vice Chair
Director, Head and Neck Cancer Research
Professor, Otolaryngology, Head and Neck
Surgery, Oncology, Pathology, Urology, and
Cellular and Molecular Medicine
Johns Hopkins School of Medicine
Baltimore, Maryland

W. Jarrard Goodwin, MD
Director, Sylvester Comprehensive
Cancer Center
University of Miami School of
Medicine
Miami, Florida

David W. Kennedy, MD FACS
Professor and Director,

Michael C. Fiore, MD
Professor of Medicine

Division of Rhinology
Department of Otorhinolaryngology:
Head and Neck Surgery
Vice Director for Professional Services and
Senior Vice President
University of Pennsylvania Health System
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

University of Wisconsin
Director, Center for Tobacco Research
and Intervention
Madison, Wisconsin

Julius B. Richmond, MD, Chair* deceased
http://www.famri.org/about_famri/news.html

Mission

FAMRI is an independent not-for-profit foundation sponsoring medical and scientific research to combat the diseases caused by exposure to tobacco smoke and to ensure that health care providers ask the right questions of their patients about second hand tobacco smoke exposure.

ATTENTION ALL APPLICANTS

FAMRI hopes that a byproduct of funded FAMRI research is greater public awareness of the life-threatening dangers presented from breathing others' tobacco smoke and that one day soon all medical/scientific institutions will be completely smoke free and will refuse all tobacco industry funding. To avoid all conflicts, any principal investigator or other participating applicant who is currently accepting tobacco industry funding, has recently applied for tobacco funding, or has any other association or consulting position with a tobacco company or affiliate of the tobacco industry is not eligible for FAMRI funding. All prior funding and/or association with tobacco companies must be disclosed and will be considered on a case-by-case basis. Investigators and institutions are required to accept the terms of the Grant Agreement prior to submitting a proposal as explained at the end of this document.

Purpose of the Clinical Innovator Award:

The purpose of the Clinical Innovator Awards (CIA) program is to stimulate novel medical and clinical scientific research studies on the topic of second hand tobacco smoke. New technologies to detect second hand tobacco-caused illnesses and novel therapies to treat these diseases are of high priority to FAMRI. This year the topics will be limited to the affects of second hand tobacco smoke on chronic sinusitis, cilia abnormalities, chronic bronchitis, COPD/emphysema, and asthmatic/allergy.

While considerable government and non-government funding is available to support established mainstream biomedical research projects, funds for high-risk projects are generally quite limited. Scientific peer review, while critical for maintaining the quality and rigor of the research enterprise, usually emphasizes preliminary data and feasibility of expensive innovation and risk taking. Despite this, scientific progress is often characterized by steady incremental advances or even plateaus interrupted by innovative breakthroughs in technology or thought that rapidly move a field to a new plane of inquiry. Some of these breakthroughs occur when investigators

from one field bring their expertise to bear on research questions in another field and form new cross-disciplinary collaborations. It is these types of innovative breakthroughs and creative collaboration that FAMRI is hoping to foster with the Clinical Innovator Awards.

Research Scope; New for 2009

FAMRI’s primary focus is on tobacco smoke studies. This year FAMRI will support research on the affect of second hand tobacco smoke on respiratory diseases; specifically, chronic sinusitis, cilia abnormalities, chronic bronchitis, COPD/emphysema, and asthma/allergies. FAMRI’s primary interest is to support areas of investigation related to translational and clinical research. For the purposes of this award, such research is defined as investigations conducted with human subjects or material of human origin in which the principal investigator (or a colleague) directly interacts with human subjects. Basic research with bearing on the relationship of respiratory diseases to second hand tobacco smoke exposure is also encouraged. Animal use for basic research is restricted to mice and rats, unless the animals are not sacrificed as part of the research. **This research must be related to and have direct application to the prevention, early detection, treatment, and cure of respiratory diseases caused by tobacco smoke exposure.**

The study areas of interest for the 2009-10 funding cycle are listed below:

Chronic sinusitis	Cilia abnormalities or alterations
Chronic bronchitis	Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD)/Emphysema
Aggravation of asthmatic conditions and allergies	

FAMRI is interested in clinical and translational research, from basic molecular mechanisms of disease to occupational health. These areas include:

Studies on the etiology and pathogenesis of tobacco-caused respiratory diseases in humans

Therapeutic interventions

Clinical trials

Regardless of the research proposed, it is important for the proposal and abstract to discuss the role of tobacco smoke, including second hand tobacco smoke, in the disease proposed for study and how the research proposal will further the current understanding, treatment and cure of respiratory issues related to exposure to tobacco smoke.

Eligibility

Researchers with an advanced degree (MD, PhD, or MD/PhD, or the equivalent) are eligible to apply. Individuals who apply to FAMRI for funding need not be US citizens. They normally apply through and with an institution or organization that is qualified under United States tax laws to receive grants from FAMRI, a US-based private foundation. The applying institution receives and administers FAMRI's funds and supervises the work of the Principal Investigator. If the applying institution is organized under the laws of a country other than the United States, it must provide FAMRI any and all documentation that FAMRI may require, in form and content acceptable to FAMRI, to ensure that any grant from FAMRI shall be a "qualified distribution" under Internal Revenue Service laws and regulations, including but not limited to affiliation with a qualified US-based institution, a current affidavit from the applicant or an opinion of qualified legal counsel stating the facts and circumstances of the applicant's organization and activities and certifying that any grant from FAMRI shall be a "qualified distribution."

Research Requirements

The grantee must devote a minimum of 50% of professional time to research during the period of this award, and at least 15% of the grantee's time (or a total of 15% of the combined times of the co-grantees) should be devoted to the research project described in the application.

Other Funding

An award will not be made or withdrawn if made if the applicant becomes the Principal Investigator on a peer-reviewed grant with the same general aims that are proposed in the application to FAMRI. Furthermore, an award will not be made or withdrawn if made if the applicant currently is receiving or accepts funding from the tobacco industry or its affiliates. (See Terms of Grant Agreement).

Funding Level

FAMRI plans to provide awards of up to \$100,000 per year for direct costs plus no more than 8.5% for indirect costs, subject to the availability of funds. The awards usually will be made for three years with a possibility of a no-cost extension for one year. The annual and total levels of support for this program are not guaranteed by FAMRI. FAMRI has no legal obligation to provide initial or continuing support.

Criteria for Review and Selection

Review and selection by FAMRI will be based on the following five criteria.

Evidence of the applicant's ability to conduct the proposed research

Potential importance of the proposed research in the field and to health in general

Originality of the research proposal

Appropriateness of the methodology and scope of the project for the length of the award

Relevance of the proposed research to the study of the effects of tobacco smoke exposure

INSTRUCTIONS FOR APPLICATION SUBMISSIONS FOR 2009 CLINICAL INNOVATOR AWARD

In order to submit a proposal for the 2009 FAMRI CIA award, you and your institution must be able to agree to the terms of the FAMRI non-negotiable, three-party Grant Agreement

Grant Policies and Conditions of the Award

Please read the Grant Agreement carefully. The language therein constitutes FAMRI's non-negotiable, three-party Grant Agreement. Access to the application form will occur with your and your institutions' delegated officer's agreement to the terms as indicated. Successful applicants are considered a party to the Agreement and will be required to agree to and accept the terms of the Agreement. Payment of the award will be made to the grantee institution, as FAMRI cannot directly fund individuals. The investigator will be responsible for the scientific conduct of the research, and the institution will be responsible for financial and administrative matters. FAMRI will issue each year's grant payment in one installment, on or before July 1. Annual progress reports will be due as indicated in the Grant Agreement in advance of issuing each funding installment. The institution is responsible for administration of funds in accordance with acceptable policies and procedures for sponsored projects, accounting and in accordance with the terms and conditions of the award. A separate financial account, available for audit, must be maintained for this award, and a financial report issued. See Clause V "Reporting and Record Keeping Requirements."

Please log on to www.famri.org and follow the link to Grant Policies and Conditions of the Award

You must determine if your institution can agree to these terms before submitting an application.

Once you have determined if the terms of the Grant Agreement can be met by your institution, please check the button entitled "My institution can agree to the terms of the Grant Agreement" at which time you will receive a FAMRI submission number and will be allowed access to a link for the FAMRI Clinical Innovator Award.

Follow the instructions provided for the CIA award. The full instructions will be available on this Web site August 3, 2009.

Questions

Please submit questions regarding this award to famri@aibs.org and refer to the Clinical Innovator Awards Program. You will receive a prompt response.

Submission Instructions

Please log on to www.famri.org after August 3, 2009. This will provide you with a link for proposal submission. Follow the instructions provided for the CIA. The full instructions will be available at that time.

The due date for all submissions is September 11, 2009.