Pfizer is seeking proposals for the advancement of RNA therapeutics and the development of the next generation of RNA medicines

Submission Deadline: April 11th, 2022

Submissions invited for novel target concepts and therapeutic strategies amenable to RNA based approaches (mRNA, circular RNA, gene editing), in the following areas of interest:

- Cellular reprogramming:
  - Cellular reprogramming in cancer (CRC, Lung, Breast, Prostate, Renal), metabolic, autoimmune disease or fibrosis (e.g. transcription factors). Prioritized lineages include:
    - Myeloid cells (DC, macrophages, monocytes)
    - T cells (induction of Tregs); CAR-Tregs or Treg reprogramming; T cell exhaustion; tolerance
    - Adipocytes, muscle cells, endothelial cells
  - Tunable cytokine/interleukin expression for immune cell modulation in cancer
  - Reprogramming of Myofibroblasts in liver and lung fibrosis
- Cancer vaccines
- Infectious Disease Vaccines
  - Protective cell mediated response to bacterial or viral infections
  - Emerging virus threats
  - Bacterial pathogens (e.g. Chlamydia trachomatis, Staphylococcus aureus)
- Chronic or Rare Kidney Disease (Focal Segmental Glomerulosclerosis, IgA Nephropathy, Alport Syndrome, or Autosomal Dominant Polycystic Kidney Disease)
- Rare Liver Diseases and Rare Neuromuscular Diseases
- Repeat Expansion Diseases (e.g. Huntington’s disease, Friedreich’s ataxia, ALS, myotonic dystrophy)
- Preference given to targets not amenable to small or large molecule intervention

Technologies and Enabling Infrastructure:
- Gene correction/replacement
- Epigenetic editing
- Delivery technology, including tissue targeting for liver, lung, kidney, immune cell subsets, central nervous system, muscle
- Non-viral delivery for RNA and gene editing
- RNA engineering technologies (e.g. UTRs, IRES, circular RNA, chemical modifications, stability)
- Regulatable gene expression
- Next-gen gene editing

Out of Scope:
- RNA vaccine strategies for Flu, COVID-19, RSV
- Non-coding RNA targets and modalities

For more information about submission process and areas of interest go to pfizercti.com or email (matthew.powers2@childrens.harvard.edu)
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Do you have an idea for a collaborative project that would benefit from industry funding and expertise?

We engage with academia and other public/private entities using a variety of collaborative models:

- **RESEARCH COLLABORATIONS**
- **SEED & VENTURE INVESTMENTS**
- **JOINT DRUG DISCOVERY**

All collaborative models provide access to Pfizer R&D resources and capabilities, helping to advance and translate early innovative concepts to potentially breakthrough medicines for patients.

- **INVESTIGATORS ARE PAIRED WITH A SCIENTIFIC CHAMPION**
- **FUNDING IS PROVIDED FOR PROJECT-SPECIFIC RESEARCH**
- **COMPLEMENTARY BIOLOGY & DRUG DISCOVERY PERFORMED AT PFIZER**

**SUBMISSION PROCESS:**

- Develop a 2–3-page non-confidential summary outlining the scientific background and research synopsis
- Get connected with a Pfizer contact who will review and provide useful guidance on your proposal prior to submission.

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