

Request for Proposals

The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society (LLS) Highlights Four Areas of Unmet Medical Need for the FY11 Translational Research Program

The LLS Translational Research Program was created in 1995 to encourage and support new approaches for the management of leukemia, lymphoma and myeloma with the goal of accelerating the transfer of findings from the laboratory to the clinic. The LLS Research staff and Medical and Scientific Affairs Committee are encouraging the submission of research proposals that address the following four areas of high unmet medical need:

- 1. Identification and characterization of the malignant stem cell in acute myeloid leukemia (AML) and myelodysplastic syndromes (MDS) and the identification of potential targeted therapies Although research activity has increased in this area, more basic and translational research is needed to increase the development of novel diagnostics and therapeutics with the potential to decrease relapse rates and improve patient outcomes . LLS seeks to support research that will further characterize AML and MDS stem cells and pursue them as targets for safe and effective new therapies.
- 2. Development of novel therapeutic strategies for patients with non-cutaneous T-cell lymphoproliferative disorders Non-cutaneous T-cell lymphoproliferative disorders represent a rather diverse set of diseases. LLS seeks to support research that will enable a better understanding of the intrinsic biological differences among non-cutaneous T-cell lymphoproliferative disorders that present therapeutic opportunities with the goal of developing more effective, tumor-specific treatment strategies.
- **3.** Development of therapeutic strategies for high-risk myeloma patients Approximately 20% of myeloma patients are considered high-risk as defined by poor cytogenetics, early disease progression under induction therapy or plasma cell leukemia presentations. LLS seeks to support the



translational research needed to identify key targets in high-risk patients with the goal of developing new therapeutic strategies for this patient population.

4. Continuation of the *Quality of Life Research Initiative* – Hematologic malignancies and their treatments can cause serious late and long-term side effects including cognitive and other neurological issues, organ and metabolic dysfunction, infertility and secondary cancers. In addition, treatments of solid tumors can produce secondary blood cancers. Research is needed to discover and validate causative biological mechanisms and predictive risk factors, and to develop and rigorously evaluate prevention and intervention strategies based on new insights. LLS seeks to support research proposals that specifically address these critical needs.

A detailed description of the LLS Translational Research Program funding mechanism and application instructions are available at http://www.leukemia-lymphoma.org/all-page?item_id=11620. All applications are submitted online through ProposalCentral at https://proposalcentral.altum.com. (Applicants should indicate in the appropriate section of the title page of their Full Proposal, that it is responsive to the appropriate initiative).

For additional questions regarding LLS grant programs, eligibility and application processes, please contact Sammy Hattar, Director of Research Administration: Sammy.Hattar@lls.org or (914) 821-8290.

For scientific questions particular to the RFPs 1, 2 or 3, please contact Rick Winneker, SVP, Research: <u>Richard.Winneker@lls.org</u> or (914) 821-8310 and for the Quality of Life Research Initiative, please contact Deborah Banker, VP of Research Communication: <u>Deborah.Banker@lls.org</u> or (914) 821-8920.