

Request for Proposals

The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society (LLS) Will Continue to Highlight Areas of Unmet Medical Need within the Translational Research Program

The LLS Translational Research Program was created in 1995 with the goal of accelerating clinical applications of laboratory findings relevant to improved diagnosis and management of leukemia, lymphoma, myeloma and other hematopoietic malignancies. In particular, the LLS Research staff and Medical and Scientific Affairs Committee encourage the submission of research proposals that address the following areas:

- 1. Development of new immunotherapeutics both passive and active for AML-Although research activity has increased in this area, more translational research is needed to increase the development of novel immunotherapeutics with the potential to decrease relapse rates and improve patient outcomes. LLS seeks to support the translational research needed to identify key targets with the goal of developing new immunotherapeutic strategies for this patient population.
- 2. Development of novel therapeutic strategies for patients with non-cutaneous T-cell lymphoproliferative disorders Non-cutaneous T-cell lymphoproliferative disorders represent a diverse set of diseases from the relatively rare and chemoresponsive adult T-cell lymphomas to the more aggressive and difficult to treat adult T-cell acute lymphocytic leukemias. 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. Introduction of novel agents in the treatment of DLBCL and MCL and of surrogate endpoints would be of value in determining whether a novel agent is truly efficacious- These two aggressive non-Hodgkin lymphomas are a biologically and clinical diverse set of diseases that are difficult to treat and seldom cured; patients with DLBCL and MCL especially need better treatment



options. LLS seeks to support translational research needed to identify novel targets leading to new therapeutic strategies.

- **4.** Development of novel therapeutic strategies for patients with MDS who have failed hypomethylating agents MDS is difficult to treat. While the use of hypomethylating agents as a treatment option appears promising, the lack of response/relapse rate is still too high. There are few viable treatment options for these patients. LLS seeks to support the translational research needed to identify targets in MDS patients that have failed hypomethylating agents with a goals of developing new therapeutic strategies for this patient population.
- 5. Further development of novel therapies using new targets such as bromodomains, methylation and other epigenetic approaches, with an emphasis on treating high-risk myeloma patients Approximately 20% of myeloma patients are considered high-risk as defined by specific cytogenetics, early disease progression under induction therapy and/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. We are particularly interested in studies that use combinations of novel therapies to achieve breakthroughs for this patient population.
- 6. Continuation of the *Quality of Life Research Initiative* Hematologic malignancies and approved blood cancer 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, solid tumor patients can suffer secondary blood cancers after standard treatments. 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 and application instructions are available at

<a href="http://www.lls.org/#/researchershealthcareprofessionals/academicgrants/translationalresearchershealthcareprofessionalresearchershealthcareprofessionalresearchershealthcareprofessionalresearchershealthcareprofessionalresearchershealthcareprofessionalresearchershealthcareprofessionalresearchershealthcareprofessionalresearchershealthcareprofessionalresearchershealthcareprofessionalresearcher



https://proposalcentral.altum.com. After carefully reviewing the descriptions above, and as appropriate, applicants should indicate on the title page of their Full Proposal that their application is responsive to one of the above requests for proposals.

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 1-6, 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.