

Funding Opportunity Announcement
Oral Anticancer Agents: Utilization, Adherence, and Health Care Delivery
[PA-17-060](#) (R01) and [PA-17-061](#) (R21)

Webinar Questions & Answers

- Q. Could you describe briefly how this program announcement fits into NCI's strategic goals for 2017 and 2018. What are NCI's key strategic areas of interest for the R01?**
- A. One of the research recommendations of the Cancer Moonshot [Blue Ribbon Panel](#) report is to conduct research on symptom management in order to minimize debilitating side effects of cancer and its treatment. Programmatic interests are outlined on the [Behavioral Research Program website](#), the [Healthcare Delivery Research Program website](#), and the [Epidemiology and Genomics Research Program website](#).
- Q. What is the anticipated review process?**
- A. Applications will be reviewed by CSR standing study sections, not Special Emphasis Panels (SEPs).
- Q. Which program officers are going to manage the R01 program announcements?**
- A. Kelly Filipski, Kate Castro, and Wendy Nelson are the three program directors managing the R01 and R21 program announcements. They will work with NCI colleagues within the Division of Cancer Control and Population Sciences and throughout NCI to assign each grant application to the appropriate program director. You are encouraged to speak with the program directors if you have any questions or concerns: Kelly Filipski (filipskikk@mail.nih.gov) for utilization-related applications; Kathleen Castro (castrok@mail.nih.gov) for healthcare delivery-related applications; and Wendy Nelson (nelsonw@mail.nih.gov) for adherence-related applications.
- Q. Are new applicants who have not had prior NIH funding before encouraged to apply?**
- A. Yes, we welcome applications from new and early-stage investigators. Additionally, one of the aims of these funding announcements is to encourage the development of new transdisciplinary teams. However, if you're new to the NIH application process, we strongly encourage you to work with someone who has experience with NIH grants before you submit your application. We also encourage you to contact your scientific program contact in advance. She can help you through the application process.
- Q. Are there any unique structural features of the program announcement? For instance, are there any parts of the application not included in regular R01 applications?**
- A. There are not any unique requirements for these program announcements.
- Q. Can you provide examples of the standing study sections that would review these types of applications?**

A. Review is under the purview of the Center for Scientific Review (CSR) at NIH; program staff do not have control over study section assignments. To view a description of standing CSR study sections, please go to the [CSR website](#). The [Public Health Service Assignment Request Form](#) may be used to communicate specific review requests to Scientific Review Officers.

Q. Will the funding opportunity announcement still be open next year for February 2018 deadlines?

A. The program announcement was posted in November 2016 and will remain active until January 2020.

Q. Is research funding available for student researchers as well?

A. This funding opportunity announcement is limited to R01 and R21 applications. Applications for research training, career development, or fellowship support are not eligible for this funding opportunity announcement. However, a faculty researcher may submit a research project grant that will fund student researchers as part of the research team. [Diversity supplements](#) may also be available. If you have a fellowship proposal, please contact the scientific program director to discuss it separately.

Q. Is this funding opportunity announcement focused only on targeted therapies or is there potential interest in other types of cancer therapies such as hormonal or chemotherapeutic agents?

A. The focus is on targeted therapies as well as other oral anticancer agents (e.g., hormonal therapies). Many complex regimens – for example, lenalidomide and thalidomide to treat multiple myeloma – are of interest as well. However, we are most interested in the newer oral agents and drug regimens.

Q. Does this funding mechanism have an interest in eHealth and/or mobile application for adherence?

A. Yes.

Q. Since there is a focus on newer agents, to what extent are you expecting pilot data to support an R01, as available data may be limited?

A. We understand the limitations, so you will need to make the best case for your work in your application. If you need feasibility data, you should consider an R21 rather than an R01.

Q. Does the National Cancer Institute give first-time investigators special consideration like the other NIH institutes?

A. Yes, new and early-stage investigators are given special consideration in the review process.

Q. What is the difference between this program announcement and the program announcements [PA-14-334 \(Advancing Interventions to Improve Medication Adherence\)](#)?

A. NCI is also participating in PA-14-334. Although both program announcements involve medication adherence, PA-14-334 pertains to all types of medication (not just oral anti-

cancer agents), focused on interventions and has specific requirements.

Q. What is the review process after the scientific review panel? For example, to what extent does the percentile versus other considerations impact this program announcement?

A. Applications reviewed by study sections receive a percentile score and a priority score. New or early-stage investigators may receive special consideration.

Q. Do you want to see multi-institutional studies of utilization or would a single institution study be responsive?

A. A single institution study would be responsive.

Q. Are there any considerations for studies focused on economics or costs associated with oral anticancer agents?

A. NIH has published specific guidance on economics research. Investigators should review the guidance prior to submission: <https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-16-025.html>

Contacts

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