

# Chicago Area-Focused Repurposing Research Request for Proposals

## Description / Background

This Request for Proposals (RFP) from [Cures Within Reach](#) is seeking repurposed treatments from a greater Chicago area institution in any unsolved disease. **One grant of \$50,000 will be awarded at a Fall 2020 CureAccelerator Live! philanthropic pitch event, with at least one other funded grant to follow.** PIs not selected as finalists for CureAccelerator Live!, or PIs who unable to participate in CureAccelerator Live!, may still be invited to submit a Full Grant for the second funding opportunity.

While repurposing clinical trial projects are eligible for this round of funding, we welcome proposals for any research stage / type, which may be considered for future funding opportunities. **We are building a pipeline to show the strength of repurposing research in the Chicago area, and we want to include your idea!**

This RFP is for Chicagoland research institutions and Principal Investigators only. Eligible institutions can be accredited academic institutions, nonprofit research organizations and large group medical practices significantly involved with medical research.

CureAccelerator Live! is a philanthropic pitch event, raising awareness of and funding for innovative repurposing research projects, with up to \$50,000 funding for the winning project announced that evening. Submitted Proposals will undergo a scientific review involving internal, external and/or Science Advisory Board reviewers, and up to five finalists will be selected to pitch at this live event, held in Fall 2020 in Chicago. Details regarding a specific date and location to come. **All clinical projects submitted to this RFP may also be considered for full grant applications and / or grant funding outside of CureAccelerator Live!.** Projects at other research stages submitted to this RFP will be added to our pipeline and may be considered for future funding opportunities.

Repurposing research tests already approved and available therapies to determine if they are safe and effective in treating a different indication, thereby improving patient outcomes and quality of life. Repurposed therapies can be used alone or in combination with other therapies. **Therapies must already be FDA, EMA or any other regulatory agency approved or otherwise readily available for human use.** Repurposing research may also:

- Test combination therapies in order to increase efficacy, including combining the current disease treatment with a repurposed treatment
- Modify current treatment protocols to make them more effective, helping more patients for longer periods of time
- Repurpose therapies approved for use in adults into pediatric indications, or vice versa

**Additional Proposal submission instructions can be downloaded at this link:**  
<http://bit.ly/chicago20instructions>.

For this initial funding round, our preference is for proof of concept clinical repurposing trials supported by strong scientific evidence or clinical observations. We are also accepting preclinical repurposing projects of all research stages that could lead to clinical trials. These submissions will become part of our pipeline for potential future funding opportunities.

**If you have a repurposing idea that isn't an exact fit for this RFP, or if you have eligibility questions due to budget or other aspects, please contact Clare Thibodeaux, PhD at [clare@cureswithinreach.org](mailto:clare@cureswithinreach.org) to discuss fit and/or submission options.**

This RFP is accepting repurposing research projects in any unsolved disease. An unsolved disease is one in which one or more of the following are true:

- There is currently no effective treatment
- The current treatment is only effective for a portion of the patient population
- There is a treatment that is effective, but many patients develop resistance to the therapy
- There is a treatment that is effective for the entire patient population, but the treatment is very expensive, and therefore some patients cannot get access to the treatment
- There is a treatment that is effective for the entire patient population with significant side effects, and for some patients the negative side effects outweigh the benefits of the treatment

**Up to five projects will be selected to be pitched at the CureAccelerator Live! finals event in Chicago.** PIs, or a designated and approved co-investigator, must be willing to attend the event and make a live pitch for their project to be selected. One pitched project will be selected for funding at the CureAccelerator Live! finals, with at least one other project selected for funding to follow.

All PIs selected as finalists for CureAccelerator Live! will receive consultation from Cures Within Reach for the preparation of their pitch, and Cures Within Reach will create a poster for the pitched project to be displayed during the event. Finalists will also provide a breakdown and justification for the total requested budget and a Research Roadmap that details the project's research objectives, timeline and success measures.

**PIs not selected as finalists for CureAccelerator Live!, or PIs who unable to participate in CureAccelerator Live!, may be invited to submit a Full Grant for other funding consideration.**

Many of our successes in repurposing have come from researchers and clinicians who had ideas that could impact a disease that was outside their normal therapeutic or scientific area.

**Please submit your repurposing ideas, find colleagues to work with and circulate this RFP to others who you think might be able to submit repurposing research that could provide solutions for an unsolved disease.**

### **Important Funding Information:**

Funding Definitions:

- Project Funding = total research budget (no set maximum)
- Remaining Project Funding = funding needed to reach the total research budget (no set

- maximum)
- Existing Project Funding = Project Funding minus Remaining Project Funding (no set maximum)
  - Requested Project Funding = funding requested through this RFP (maximum = \$50,000, including the 20% institutional match)
  - Budget Breakdown = breakdown of the Requested Project Funding (maximum total = \$50,000, including 20% institutional match)
  - Estimated Overall Project Costs = Requested Project Funding (see above)

**Cures Within Reach will provide no more than 80% of the REQUESTED PROJECT FUNDING, and the institution or organization proposing the research will match at least 20% of the REQUESTED PROJECT FUNDING.** The 20% match must be real dollars and can come from any institutional source. All funding amounts and requests are in US dollars.

The REQUESTED PROJECT FUNDING is equal to the ESTIMATED OVERALL PROJECT COSTS in the BUDGET BREAKDOWN section of the proposal submission, and it includes the 20% institutional match.

Cures Within Reach will accept REQUESTED PROJECT FUNDING amounts that are within the minimum and maximum amounts indicated. We do not set an upper limit to the PROJECT FUNDING, or the EXISTING PROJECT FUNDING, but REQUESTED PROJECT FUNDING amounts to Cures Within Reach are limited to the maximum amount specified in the Funding Information section below. Proposals may be submitted for which the PROJECT FUNDING is within the Cures Within Reach maximum, and for projects that already have EXISTING PROJECT FUNDING from another source and require REMAINING PROJECT FUNDING, when this additional funding from Cures Within Reach will help speed patient impact.

**Cures Within Reach REQUESTED PROJECT FUNDING must be sole, late or final funding for the project.** REQUESTED PROJECT FUNDING from Cures Within Reach cannot be the first funding raised for a project, unless the REQUESTED PROJECT FUNDING, including the 20% match from the institution, organization or company proposing the research, equals the PROJECT FUNDING.

Here are several examples of funding requests and disbursements to help investigators and institutions understand the funding opportunity.

Example A: The maximum funding request to CWR is \$50,000. The PI enters \$40,000 for REQUESTED PROJECT FUNDING and for ESTIMATED OVERALL PROJECT COSTS in the BUDGET BREAKDOWN, which equals the PROJECT FUNDING. CWR approves this project, and will provide \$32,000 (80% of the REQUESTED PROJECT FUNDING) and the investigator/institution will match the remaining \$8,000 of the REQUESTED PROJECT FUNDING.

Example B: The maximum funding request to CWR is \$50,000. The PI enters \$50,000 for REQUESTED PROJECT FUNDING and for ESTIMATED OVERALL PROJECT COSTS in the BUDGET BREAKDOWN, which equals the PROJECT FUNDING. CWR approves this project, and will provide \$40,000 (80% of the REQUESTED PROJECT FUNDING) and the investigator/institution will match the remaining \$10,000 of the REQUESTED PROJECT FUNDING.

Example C: The maximum funding request to CWR is \$50,000. The PI enters \$50,000 for REQUESTED PROJECT FUNDING and for ESTIMATED OVERALL PROJECT COSTS in the

BUDGET BREAKDOWN, which will cover one-third of the \$150,000 entered for PROJECT FUNDING. The other \$100,000 is entered for EXISTING PROJECT FUNDING, and has already been secured by the investigator and institution. CWR approves this project, and will provide \$40,000 (80% of the REQUESTED PROJECT FUNDING) and the investigator/institution will match the remaining \$10,000 of the REQUESTED PROJECT FUNDING and provide the \$100,000 of the EXISTING PROJECT FUNDING.

The CWR portion of the REQUESTED PROJECT FUNDING cannot be used for any indirect costs. The 20% institutional match may be used for indirect costs.

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**Diseases/Conditions**

[Any Unsolved Disease](#)

**Treatments**

[Any repurposed drugs, devices, nutraceuticals, or diagnostics](#)

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**Project Type**

- Human Clinical Trial
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**Timeline**

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**Do you have a preference for where the research should take place?**

This research must take place in the Chicago area. This RFP is open to accredited Chicagoland academic institutions, nonprofit research organizations and large group medical practices significantly involved with medical research.

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**Do you have a preference for where you would like to see patient impact?**

We are open to repurposed therapies to treat any unsolved disease. We are hopeful that any discovery would be useful anywhere in the world where the repurposed therapy is available.

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**Restrictions**

There are no other restrictions other than those described above.

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**Other Information for Researchers**

If selected to participate in CureAccelerator Live!, the PI, or a designated and approved co-investigator, must attend the event to pitch the project in person. CureAccelerator Live! will be held in Chicago in Fall 2020. Details regarding a specific date and location to come. One grant of

\$50,000 will be awarded CureAccelerator Live!, with at least one other funded grant to follow. **PIs not selected as finalists for CureAccelerator Live!, or PIs who unable to participate in CureAccelerator Live!, may still be invited to submit a Full Grant for the second funding opportunity.**

Cures Within Reach and our funders primarily fund proof of concept clinical repurposing trials that can determine whether a repurposed therapy can have a direct and positive impact on patients. Sometimes the clinical trials in our portfolio are open label studies with clinical endpoints that compare to the natural history of the disease. Other clinical trials are randomized, blinded, and controlled studies. We are open to all clinical trial designs that have the opportunity to create a robust and well-defined outcome that will show reproducible clinical impact.

While repurposing clinical trial projects are eligible for this round of funding, we welcome proposals for any research stage / type, which may be considered for future funding opportunities. **We are building a pipeline to show the strength of repurposing research in the Chicago area, and we want to include your idea!**

**Cost effectiveness, speed and patient impact are key ranking criteria for a successful Proposal submission.** PIs will receive a decision on their Proposal submission within approximately 6 weeks of the RFP deadline.

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## Funding Available

Minimum \$25,000

Maximum \$50,000

## Funding Description

See full Funding information in the Research Description section above. Cures Within Reach will accept REQUESTED PROJECT FUNDING amounts that are within the minimum and maximum amounts indicated. Cures Within Reach REQUESTED PROJECT FUNDING must be sole, late or final funding for the project, as indicated in the Research Description. The CWR portion of the REQUESTED PROJECT FUNDING cannot be used for any indirect costs, although up to 10% of the REQUESTED PROJECT FUNDING can be used to cover direct project administrative costs. The 20% institutional match may be used for indirect costs.

Open to co-funding

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## Co-Funding Description

We will accept projects that already have funding from another source and require additional funding, when this additional funding from Cures Within Reach will help improve the chances of success of the project, and therefore increase the chance of patient impact. Cures Within Reach REQUESTED PROJECT FUNDING must be sole, late or final funding for the project, as indicated in the Research Description. We are open to working with other funders who share our desire to find solutions for rare disease patients and are interested in these near-term

repurposing opportunities.

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**Due Date for Project Proposal Summary Submissions**

06-13-2020

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