



US Deprescribing Research Network

Advancing Research to Optimize Medication Use Among Older Adults

Collaboration Mini Awards

The US Deprescribing Research Network announces a new mechanism of mini awards.

The US Deprescribing Research Network invites brief proposals for activities that promote new or developing, mutually beneficial, research partnerships that will stimulate research on deprescribing for older adults. USDeN seeks to foster innovative, stakeholder-informed and rigorous research, and recognizes the importance of collaboration in such efforts. These mini-awards are intended to support the development of collaborations to ultimately lead to funded research efforts. All collaborative partners are encouraged to contribute to the development of the proposal.

Applicants may propose a capacity building project, effort to build collaboration among academic, institutional, and/or community partners, or similar that enable the partners to pursue an identified research agenda related to deprescribing for older adults. The long-term goals of the research partnerships supported by mini-grants may include one or more of the following:

- to develop and evaluate deprescribing interventions for older adults
- to evaluate the outcomes of deprescribing among populations of older adults, or
- to increase knowledge about the need for deprescribing and person and family perspectives on deprescribing, particularly for priority populations.

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- 1) Background:** USDeN Collaboration Mini-Awards are intended to engage academic, institutional, and/or community partners in collaborative activities that foster sustainable research collaborations in order to address deprescribing, particularly for older adults. Priority will be given to partnerships that can produce a small step forward toward building a research collaboration or opportunity.
 - 2) Research Objectives:** Examples of research activities that may be appropriate for this mechanism include a convening of potential collaborators, a small data run between health systems to understand sample size, a process of stakeholder engagement between researchers and a community group, etc. Other activities may be covered (see allowable types of expenses); key will be to describe how this small award can build toward a goal. It will be key to describe the outcome, or deliverable, that the Mini-Award will result.
 - 3) Funds available:** Up to \$5,000 (inclusive of F&A, if applicable) to support the development and strengthening of new partnerships. Amounts substantially under this limit may be appropriate for activities that require only a small amount of funding to succeed.
 - 4) Application Information:**
 - a) Proposals:**
 - i) Formatting: 11-point Arial font, 0.5" margins
 - ii) Cover page (one page, separate from the 2-page proposal)
 - (1) Project title
 - (2) Total requested amount
 - (3) Principal investigator(s)' Name and Title
 - (4) Organization/Institution name and address (including zip +4)
 - (5) Name, telephone, and email for person to be contact on matter involving this application

- (6) Names, titles, and institutions of collaborator(s)/co-investigator(s), stakeholders, mentor(s), and/or consultant(s) on the project
- (7) Name, title and signature of institution's Authorized Representative
- iii) Project / activity plan. This section should be a maximum of two pages (not including appendices).
 - (1) Title of Research Project
 - (2) Brief statement of Purpose and Intended Impact: Why are you undertaking the proposed effort? What is the health concern about deprescribing you ultimately hope to address through this partnership? How will the collaboration you propose lead to development of research that will contribute to improving the health concern you are addressing? How will you know if your effort succeeded?
 - (3) Activity: Describe the proposed activity / activities for which you seek funding. This section can be broad, recognizing that this is a collaboration award and may be undertaken early in the process. However, if you have a specific focus for a research project, please describe it.
 - (4) Partner Roles: List all collaborating organizations and/or key individuals and describe how each partner has been involved in the development of this project / activity, what their roles will be, and what in-kind resources they will contribute.
 - (5) Timeline: Briefly indicate the sequence of steps in implementing your project over the project period. Please be sure to plan time for IRB approval if appropriate (although many activities may not require IRB approval). For your planning purposes, please note that it may take up to 1-2 months for USDeN to review your proposal. After the mini-grant award is announced, procedures will be set up for any expenditures to be submitted to UCSF/NCIRE.
- iv) Detailed Budget and Justification: Indicate how the funds will be used and provide reasoning for each expense.
 - (1) Special notes:
 - (a) Funding may not be used to support existing program operations or activities unrelated to the development of research partnerships or the research being proposed.
 - (b) Payment for project expenses will be handled by reimbursement and/or through a subaward agreement. This will be determined on a case-by-case basis once a funding decision has been made.
 - (c) If participants are being asked to contribute time for interviews, surveys, or focus groups, budget adequate compensation for their time if appropriate.
 - (d) Please reference in-kind donations from the participating partners (such as staff time, use of facilities).
 - (e) Allowable costs can include items such as honoraria for stakeholder partners, food for in person meetings, domestic travel (economy class only) to bring potential partners together, training and consultative research support services, and other such expenses. Please contact us (admin@deprescribingresearch.org) if you have any questions. Payment for the salary of investigators or staff is generally not allowable, and alcohol cannot be reimbursed. Funded collaborative activities should be completed within 12 months of award.

Note: Any publications and posters from the collaboration mini-awards need to state, "The project [publication or poster] described was supported by the US Deprescribing Research Network NIA grant [1R24AG064025-01]. Its contents are solely the responsibilities of the authors and do not necessarily represent official views of USDeN, or the National Institutes of Health."

- b) **Application Submission:** please upload your completed application as one document through the website using the "Submit an Application" button and filling out the online form. Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis. If you encounter any issues with the submission process, please email admin@deprescribingresearch.org

- c) **Review Process:** Proposals will be evaluated based on the potential to lead to future research projects on deprescribing, feasibility of the activity, investigators, stakeholder engagement (if appropriate to the project), and relevance to aging.

5) Eligibility Criteria:

a) Institutions

- i. Eligible institutions include colleges, universities, medical or nursing schools, non-profits, or other fiscally responsible organizations.
- ii. Proposals may be submitted by non-US institutions, but such proposals must articulate how the proposed research planning activities applies to settings outside of the applicant's home country, including to the US.

b) Principal Investigator

- i. Organization requirement: Applicant needs to be involved in the organization and at least one doctoral level researcher needs to be a partner in the application.
- ii. Applicants from under-represented racial and ethnic groups as well as individuals with disabilities are strongly encouraged to apply for funding

If you have any questions or need more information regarding the collaboration mini-awards, please contact us at admin@deprescribingresearch.org