



CCHS NETWORK

FAMILY • FOUNDATION • SCIENCE

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CONGENITAL CENTRAL HYPOVENTILATION SYNDROME (CCHS) NETWORK

**CALL FOR APPLICATIONS
2024 CCHS Grant Award**

PROGRAM GUIDELINES

PROGRAM SUMMARY

The Congenital Central Hypoventilation Syndrome (CCHS) grant award represents a collaborative effort between the CCHS Network and the CCHS Foundation to encourage and support basic, clinical, translational, technological or epidemiological research to impact the lives of patients with CCHS.

During the 2024 grant award cycle, the CCHS Network/Foundation expects to fund 2 grants that will provide up to \$75,000 for 1 year for expenses related to the research project, which may include research laboratory supplies, equipment, publication charges for manuscripts that pertain directly to the funded project, conference travel to present results, and other research expenses. Priority will be given to applications that address the biology, treatment, or life stages of CCHS with an innovative and relevant research plan. Applications are encouraged from researchers who are new to the field of CCHS research but believe they have a novel perspective, based on their own research expertise, that will be of value in the understanding of CCHS.

APPLICATION DEADLINE

July 31, 2024

DECISION DATE

October 1, 2024

ANTICIPATED AWARD START DATE

January 1, 2025

Casting a light in the dark for patients and families living
with Congenital Central Hypoventilation Syndrome.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

Applicants must have a doctoral degree (including Ph.D., M.D., D.O., D.C., N.D., D.D.S., D.V.M., Sc.D., D.N.S., Pharm.D., or equivalent degree) and have a faculty level appointment demonstrated institutional commitment to the Principal Investigator (research lab space, clinical studies support, etc.). Junior faculty, post-doctoral fellows and residents are also eligible, provided a mentoring team is designated and a strong letter of support is included with the application.

Prior recipients of a CCHS Grant Award may apply provided sufficient progress was made on the original project and documentation is up-to-date as determined by the CCHS Research Advisory Board (RAB).

RESEARCH FOCUS AREAS

We are actively seeking research proposals in various areas of CCHS, including basic research into any aspect of CCHS biology, translational development of relevant technologies or treatment modalities, and human studies related to the CCHS population. Particularly, we welcome projects in two key research areas:

1. **Translational Development:** We invite proposals focused on the translational development of innovative technologies or treatments for CCHS.
2. **Biomedical Correlates:** Projects exploring biomedical correlates of CCHS beyond control of breathing are of great interest. This encompasses topics such as Hirschsprung's disease, cardiovascular dysfunction, growth hormone deficiency, and vision problems.

We strongly encourage inquiries to vet clinical and translational research proposals with the CCHS Network. Feel free to reach out with any questions or proposals.

REVIEW PROCESS

Applications are peer-reviewed by the RAB comprised of researchers and physicians respected for their accomplishments and expertise in the care of CCHS patients and the biology of CCHS. Also on the RAB are parents and family members of CCHS patients who have a medical or scientific background.

The following review criteria will be used when reviewing and scoring applications and determining funding decisions:

- **Investigator(s)**
What training and experience does the applicant and the research team have to ensure successful implementation of the proposed research? The track record and productivity of the investigative team will also be assessed.
- **Significance**
Will the proposed work make a significant impact in the understanding, treatment, or care of CCHS patients? What potential does the research have to advance the field of CCHS research?

- Approach
 - Are the overall strategy, experimental design, and methodology well-reasoned and appropriate to achieve the proposed specific aims of the project within the grant term?
 - Are potential problems and alternative strategies described? Are benchmarks and metrics of success presented? Is the budget fully justified for the proposed project?
- Institutional environment

What institutional resources (equipment, core facilities, support, collaborators) are available to the applicant and are they adequate to facilitate and successfully complete the proposed project?

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

Applications should include the project title and abstract, applicant contact information and biographical sketch, institutional contact information, research strategy, references, budget with justification, and organizational assurances. Research strategy should be no longer than 5 pages and include these sections: Specific aims, Significance, and Approach. References, budget, and budget justification are not counted against the 5-page limit. Please send final applications to eddysyang@gmail.com.

BUDGET

Up to \$75,000 for 1 year may be requested in this cycle of grant awards. Proposed expenses related to the research project may include research laboratory supplies, equipment, and publication charges for manuscripts that pertain directly to the funded project. Equipment requests should not exceed more than \$10,000. An accompanying detailed budget justification is required. Indirect/overhead costs as well as salary of the PI are NOT allowed. However, salary support for other key personnel such as research assistants and post-doctoral fellows may be requested.

PROGRAM INQUIRIES

For application information, policies and procedures, and general information, please visit the CCHS Network's website at www.cchsnetwork.org or via email: eddysyang@gmail.com.

