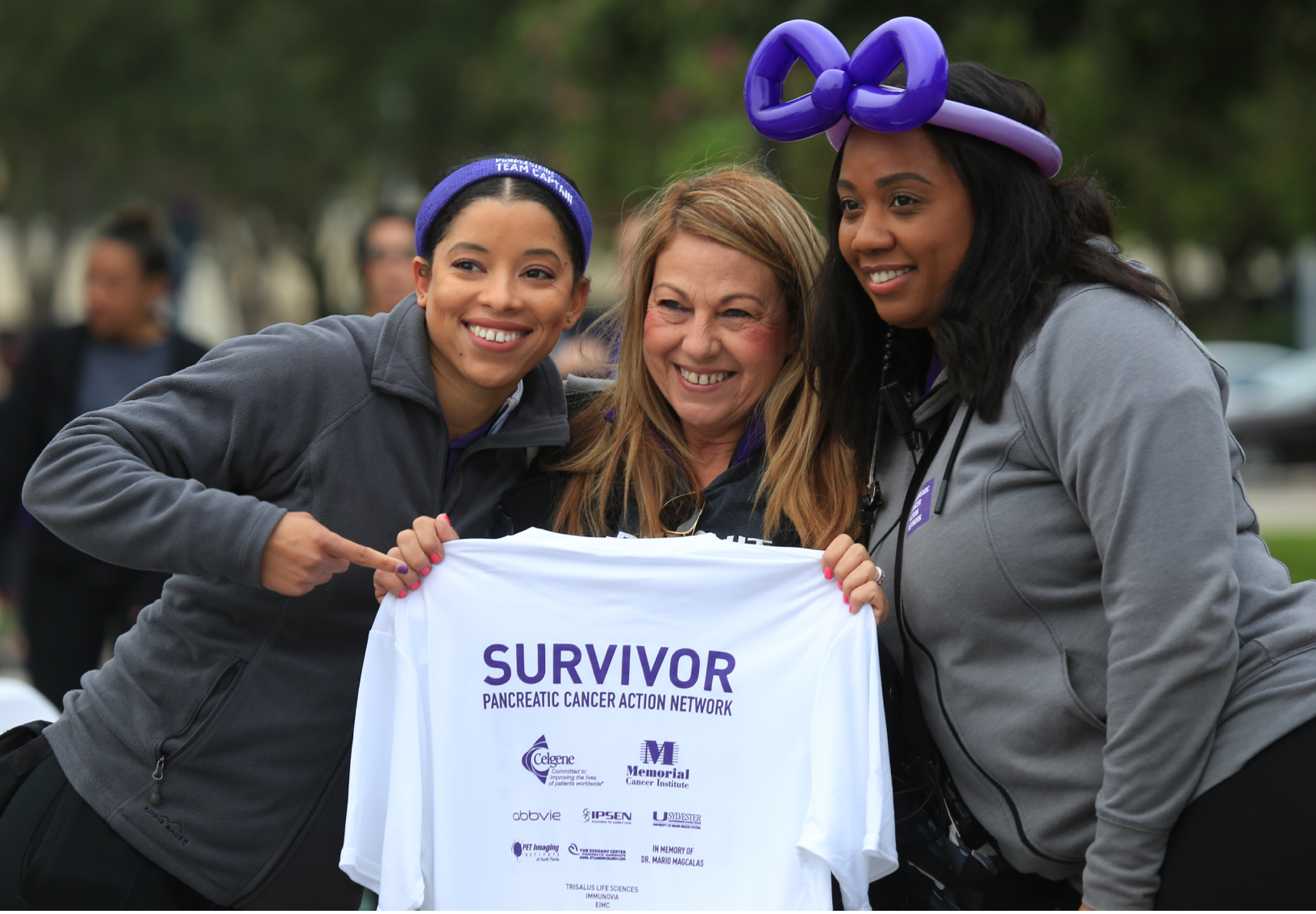

2023
PANCREATIC CANCER ACTION NETWORK

THERAPEUTIC ACCELERATOR AWARD

Program Guidelines and Application Instructions

PANCREATIC CANCER ACTION NETWORK®

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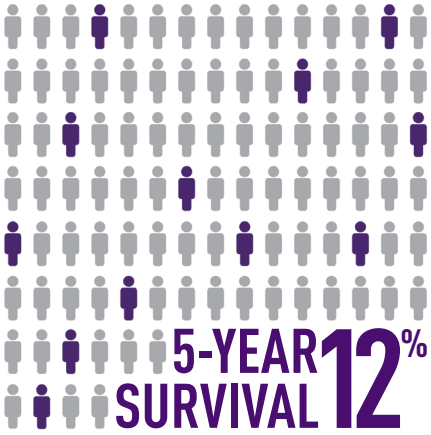
Please direct questions to:
grants@pancan.org

PANCREATIC CANCER HAS THE LOWEST FIVE-YEAR RELATIVE SURVIVAL RATE OF ALL MAJOR CANCERS



ADVANCE RESEARCH.
SUPPORT PATIENTS.
CREATE HOPE.

I. GUIDELINES

SUMMARY

Pancreatic cancer remains top on the list of the deadliest cancers with a 5-year survival rate of just 12%. Pancreatic cancer has been particularly recalcitrant to treatment for reasons that include the advanced stage at diagnosis, abundant desmoplasia, quiescent or exhausted immune response, and almost universal driver mutations in the oncogene KRAS or the RAS pathway. **The focus of this Request for Applications is to accelerate the development of therapeutic strategies that are likely to be effective in a significant portion of pancreatic ductal adenocarcinoma (PDAC) cases.** Therapies that are designed to reverse immunosuppressive activities and result in the activation of a robust immune response in notoriously recalcitrant PDAC are considered high priority.

Up to $5,000,000 in support will be offered to a pharmaceutical or biotechnology company applicant to offset the cost of testing their approach in early-stage (Phase I/II) PDAC clinical trials. Applicants may utilize their internal clinical trial capabilities, identify academic collaborators, and/or leverage the clinical trial sites involved in the Pancreatic Cancer Action Network's Precision Promise℠ initiative. The company will hold the IND and retains all intellectual property rights.

The ultimate goal is entry of the successful strategy into the Precision Promise adaptive Phase II/III clinical trial to quickly allow for FDA approval of a superior standard-of-care therapy in first and/or second-line metastatic pancreatic cancer. Applicants must propose an approach that, if successful, could advance into the Precision Promise registration study.

IMPORTANT DATES

Letter of Intent is requested by March 15, 2023. Submit by email to **grants@pancan.org**.
Applications are due on April 14, 2023, by midnight Eastern Standard Time.
Funding decisions are anticipated by June 2023.
Grant term is July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2025.
Grant recipients are expected to attend the PanCAN Annual Scientific Summit.

BACKGROUND

The Pancreatic Cancer Action Network's (PanCAN) vision is to create a world in which all patients with pancreatic cancer will thrive. PanCAN takes bold action towards realizing this vision by providing personalized patient services, creating a community of supporters and volunteers, advocating for government support, and funding life-saving research through a competitive grants program and specialized clinical initiatives.

Precision Promise is PanCAN's groundbreaking initiative to accelerate new treatment options for pancreatic cancer patients. Precision Promise is designed to serve as a catalyst to facilitate and accelerate pancreatic cancer drug development, de-risk industry participation, and transform clinical research for this hard-to-treat patient population. At the center of Precision Promise is an adaptive randomized Phase II/III registration-ready clinical trial (NCT04229004). Focused on first and second-line therapies for patients with metastatic PDAC, multiple investigational arms are compared to two standard-of-care treatment arms using Bayesian adaptive randomization to provide efficiencies of scale and maximize the chance that patients receive effective novel treatments. The primary endpoint for the trial is overall survival, allowing for a registration-ready package with 175 patients per investigational arm and dramatically lowering cost and accelerating progress. The Precision Promise Master Protocol calls for pre- and on-treatment biopsies and blood samples for extensive molecular analysis to ensure learning from every patient. Enrichment biomarkers can be incorporated if they have a prevalence of at least 20%. Supportive care, a

hallmark of the study, is provided for all patients and studied extensively. Precision Promise is open for enrollment at 24 top cancer institutions across the country with expansion to 30 sites in the near future. The overall goal is to move therapeutic approaches quickly, efficiently, and cost-effectively through later-stage clinical steps and on to regulatory approval to change the standard-of-care for advanced pancreatic cancer patients. More information on the background and vision of Precision Promise is found at **pancan.org/precision-promise**.

APPLICANT ELIGIBILITY

- The Principal Investigator (PI) must be employed by or represent a biotechnology or pharmaceutical company.
- Applicant organization must have the ability to operate within and accept funds through a legal entity in the United States.
- The team (PI, co-PI, etc) must include an investigator with a medical degree (including MD, DO, or equivalent) with extensive experience in oncology clinical trials; pancreatic cancer expertise is preferred.
- Interested applicants should/may contact PanCAN Research Grants Department (**grants@pancan.org**) for questions about eligibility and suitability.

USE OF FUNDS

Up to $5,000,000 total is available for clinical trial-related expenses over a two-year period. Final budget will be determined based on review of proposed work. Details will be negotiated at the time of award and include milestone-driven payments. Eligibility criteria for clinical trials must be restricted to a diagnosis of PDAC and are thus anticipated to be Phase IB or single arm Phase II studies; first-in-human studies are considered lower priority. Applicants may utilize their internal clinical trial capabilities, identify academic collaborators, or contact PanCAN to learn more about the infrastructure provided by PanCAN's Precision Promise initiative that may be relevant to the proposal. Contact PanCAN Research Grants Department (**grants@pancan.org**) for more information on this option.

PROJECT CRITERIA

The purpose of this RFA is to accelerate the development of therapeutic strategies that address vulnerabilities found in a significant portion of PDAC cases. Evidence should be provided for the prevalence of any molecular alteration or pathway activation indicators in a representative cohort of PDAC cases. Highest priority for this year is placed on reversing the profoundly immunosuppressive microenvironment characteristic of PDAC to achieve a robust immune response. Relevant approaches would include those that intervene on myeloid cells (e.g., neutrophils, macrophages, MDSC), cancer-associated fibroblast populations, regulatory T-cells, or relevant immune checkpoints. Other approaches will be considered and evaluated based on the quality and abundance of supporting evidence. Clinical trial eligibility is restricted to a diagnosis of PDAC, keeping in mind the purpose of the Therapeutic Accelerator Award is to accelerate the development of therapeutic approaches that could become an arm in the Precision Promise platform which focuses on patients with metastatic disease receiving first or second-line therapy.

EVALUATION OF APPLICATIONS

Applications for a Therapeutic Accelerator Award will be reviewed using a rigorous peer-review process. Applications will be evaluated by a Scientific Review Committee constituted by PanCAN's Research Grants Department and composed of scientists and clinicians respected for their accomplishments in drug development or clinical trial design and execution. Applications will also be evaluated by a PanCAN Business Review Committee, in partnership with Skipper Bio Med, LLC, an independent *pro bono* research consultancy. Patient Research Advocates are also invited to join the Scientific Review Committee to represent the patient perspective. The Committee will consider the following criteria when reviewing applications.

- **Scientific validity of the target(s)**
    - Is there strong understanding and rationale for the target(s) involvement in PDAC carcinogenesis or progression?
    - Is there strong preclinical data supporting the contribution of the target(s) to PDAC carcinogenesis or progression?
    - What percentage of PDAC patients are likely to benefit from this approach?
- **Agent characteristics**
    - How well are the chemical or physical characteristics of the agents(s) understood?
    - How well are the biologic interactions understood, e.g., ADME, toxicity, etc.?
    - Have pharmacodynamic or predictive biomarkers been developed?
    - How strong is the preclinical or clinical data for efficacy of the agent(s) in any cancer type, and in pancreatic cancer in particular?
- **Plan for clinical development**
    - Is there a well-reasoned plan for clinical development for PDAC? Is biostatistical and logistical information adequate to demonstrate ability to achieve the stated goal?
    - Are sufficient correlative studies incorporated to allow a thorough understanding of drug activity?
    - Are the endpoints used to determine success appropriate?
    - Will the results of the proposed trial prepare the approach for entry into Precision Promise if successful?
- **Team and company support**
    - Has the team demonstrated a commitment to pancreatic cancer?
    - Management team/advisors' experience in conducting oncology (ideally pancreatic) clinical trials and/or successfully bringing therapeutics to market
    - Is the company likely to have the expertise, resources and desire to carry the project through to Precision Promise and eventual FDA approval if warranted?
    - Does the company have a detailed budget and timeline for the proposed trial? *Detailed timeline should incorporate product development milestones (as applicable to your asset) such as patient enrollment, dosing of different cohorts, GMP production, regulatory submissions (i.e., protocol amendment), IND (or equivalent) submission, etc.*
    - Does the company have strong IP protecting the relevant asset(s)? *Describe the past and future fundraising plans, as applicable.*

II. APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

A Letter of Intent (LOI) is requested by March 15, 2023. A LOI template is found on the last page of this RFA Guidelines document and should be emailed to **grants@pancan.org** by March 15, 2023.

Full applications are due by midnight Eastern Standard Time on Friday, April 14, 2023, using the **ProposalCentral website**.

To submit an application, applicants need to enter information directly into the online submission platform and upload the required documents. The following instructions provide details about making a profile on ProposalCentral, the information that needs to be entered and the materials that need to be uploaded.

GETTING STARTED IN PROPOSALCENTRAL

If you are a new user of ProposalCentral, click the "Create an Account Now" button and complete the registration process. After you click the "Create an Account Now" button, complete your Professional Profile (fourth tab from the left) before starting an application.

If you are already registered with ProposalCentral, access the site and log in with your Username and Password. If you have forgotten your password, click on the "Forgot Your Username/Password?" link. Supply your User ID or email address in the space provided; your password will be sent to you by email.

Once you're logged into ProposalCentral, you can access the application page by selecting the "Grant Opportunities" tab (grey tab furthest to the right). A list of applications will be displayed. Find the Pancreatic Cancer Action Network Therapeutic Accelerator Award and click the "Apply Now" link (second-to-last column) to create your application.

If you have difficulty registering, logging in or creating your application, contact ProposalCentral Customer Support. Phone: (800) 875-2562 or (703) 964-5840; Email: pcsupport@altum.com.

COMPLETING AND SUBMITTING THE APPLICATION

The following information is required to submit a complete application. Numbers correspond to the application sections found on the left side of the ProposalCentral application webpage.

1. **Title Page.** Enter the title of the proposed research project directly into the ProposalCentral system. The title is limited to no more than 75 characters in length (including spaces). Do not use abbreviations. A project title must be entered and saved before additional sections may be accessed. Also complete the other required (*) items on this page.

2. **Download Template and Instructions.** The Guidelines and Application Instructions document, the Project Proposal template and the Project Milestones and Timeline template should be downloaded from this page. Click the "Download" icon to save each of the templates to your computer. See below instructions on how to complete the templates.

3. **Enable Other Users to Access this Proposal.** Optional.

4. **Contact PI (Applicant) Information.** Enter information for the Contact PI directly into the ProposalCentral system. The Contact PI is required to update their Professional Profile.

5. **Contacts.** Enter information for the contact PI's organization, post-award contact person and the designated signing official directly into the ProposalCentral system.

6. **Project Team.** Enter information for each member of the Project Team.

7. **Scientific Abstract.** Enter the abstract directly into the ProposalCentral system. The abstract should be limited to 3,000 characters (including spaces) and must be concise and comprehensive. Describe the relevance of the proposed project to pancreatic cancer, the foundational research that has been completed to justify the proposed therapeutic approach, the clinical study that is planned, and how results will contribute to the goal of improving patient outcomes. NOTE: The ProposalCentral system does not lock the scientific abstract field after 3,000 characters have been entered. To ensure that your abstract does not exceed the character limit, click the red "Save" button at the top or bottom of the screen before proceeding to the next section. If the scientific abstract is too long, you will receive an error message at the top of the page.

8. **Budget Summary.** Indicate the amount requested up to $5,000,000 total and whether these funds will be used to support personnel, non-personnel, site per-patient, and/or other specified costs. Indicate how any remaining costs associated with the proposed study will be covered. Final budget will be determined based on review of proposed work and details will be negotiated at the time of award and include milestone-driven payments provided in the Project Milestones and Timeline application document.

9. **Application Documents.** Upload all required documents.

    - **Project Proposal** (download template for detailed instructions and page limits. Note: there is a five-page limit for Project Narrative)

    - **Project Milestones and Timeline** (download template)

    - **Biographical Sketch of the Applicant** (Abbreviated Curriculum Vitae or NIH Biographical Sketch format - Form OMB No. 0925-0046 is acceptable. The template can be downloaded here - then click on "Non-fellowship Biosketch)

    - **Letter of Organizational Support**
      The letter must be written on letterhead by the Chief Executive Officer or appropriate senior member of the organization's leadership and should be addressed to the Scientific Review Committee. The letter should detail Leadership's view on the following:
        - Development of the proposed approach for the treatment of advanced pancreatic cancer
        - Impact and use of the funds provided by this grant on the plans for clinical development. Would you develop in pancreatic cancer without this award?
        - Long-term goals of the company for late-stage clinical development and regulatory approval if warranted

The Company will hold the IND for the study and retains all intellectual property rights. Note that PanCAN expects that the Company is willing to advance a successful treatment (based on the Phase Ib/II clinical trial) into the Phase II/III Precision Promise study, has control over the clinical development of the drug and ability to manufacture drug for all clinical studies anticipated in this grant, and has or will obtain the funds needed to support the development of their drug in the Precision Promise Phase II/III trial.

Documents must be uploaded as PDFs. To ensure your PDF files upload in their entirety, please avoid replacing files multiple times, using files that were once password protected or encrypted and combining multiple scanned documents or files into one PDF. Follow the instructions on the page to upload the documents. In the section for attachments, all the required attachments are listed in the middle of the screen. Once you upload a required attachment, that attachment type will be removed from the required list and will be displayed in the "Current list of uploaded attachments." If you wish to modify the attached file, make the revisions to your original file on your computer (offline), convert the file to PDF and use the same process above to attach the newly revised file. Delete any previously submitted versions of the file before submitting your application.

10. **Validate.** Validate the application on ProposalCentral. This is an essential step. "Validate" checks for required data and required attachments. You will not be able to submit the application if all the required data and attachments have not been provided.

11. **E-Signatures and Download Application.** After completing all the required sections for your application, you will be prompted to type your name to electronically sign the application. This step must be completed for submission. If you wish to view the application in its entirety (recommended), select the "Download the Signature Pages with Attachments" option.

12. **Submit.** Click the "Submit" link. An email will be sent to you confirming your submission. Once your application is submitted, you may view it by accessing the "Submitted" link under the "Proposals" tab. The status column will show "Submitted" and the date submitted. You may need to refresh your browser screen after submitting the application to see the updated status.

INQUIRIES

Inquiries or technical issues regarding ProposalCentral and the online application process should be directed to customer support at (703) 964-5840 or toll-free at (800) 875-2562 or by email at **pcsupport@altum.com**.

Inquiries about RFA guidelines and application materials should be directed to **grants@pancan.org**.

LETTER OF INTENT

The completed letter of intent should be emailed to grants@pancan.org by March 15, 2023. Full application must be submitted via ProposalCentral by April 14, 2023.

Date:

Name of Company:

Name and Title of Authorized Signatory:

Address:

I submit this Letter of Intent to notify Pancreatic Cancer Action Network (PanCAN) of [name of company's] intent to submit a proposal for the FY23 PanCAN Therapeutic Accelerator Award.

[In no more than 200 words, briefly describe - the asset, mode of action, phase of development and interest in pancreatic cancer.]

[Name] will be our main point of contact for the purposes of the application and can be reached at:

Email:

Phone number:

Thank you,

[Name]

[Signature]