



Noninvasive Brain Modulation for Dystonia

Request for Applications (RFA)

Purpose

The Dystonia Medical Research Foundation (DMRF) is seeking scientific proposals on *noninvasive brain modulation for dystonia* that will address the most significant and immediate needs in this field with special emphasis on innovative, collaborative and cross-disciplinary research.

Background

Dystonia is a movement disorder characterized by muscle contractions causing abnormal movements and postures. Despite substantial progress made in understanding various aspects of dystonia, there has been limited success in both revealing the basic mechanisms of dystonia and implementing existing knowledge into clinical practice. To accelerate development of novel approaches and transformative research, the DMRF continues to support studies that will fundamentally change our understanding of brain dysfunction in dystonia and will offer new modalities for treatment and prevention.

Objectives

DMRF intends to support innovative, hypothesis-driven research that develops novel or existing noninvasive brain modulation tools and techniques and integrates underlying brain network pathophysiology of dystonia. Research proposals that attempt to identify and capitalize on fundamental mechanisms of brain network changes in dystonia will be given preference. Collaborative and interdisciplinary research projects that combine noninvasive brain modulation with brain imaging and neurophysiological methods are encouraged.

Conditions of Award

Individuals with appropriate scientific credentials employed by a non-profit or for-profit institution, domestic or foreign, are eligible to apply. *Collaborative research proposals that transcend individual disciplines and levels of analysis are strongly encouraged.* The awards will provide support up to **three (3) years** with a budget not exceeding **100,000 USD per year**. Applicants should demonstrate commitment and potential to obtain a major grant to support their research project after it is completed.

A *letter of intent* is required and should be submitted electronically to DMRF by **April 25, 2022**. Letters should be no more than *one (1) page* and include a descriptive title and summary of proposed research, as well as names and affiliations of participating researchers. If invited to submit a full proposal, applications will be due **June 6, 2022**.

Address for Submissions and Inquiries

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DMRF's commitment to support the award is conditional on the availability of funds