



Michael G. DeGroote

INSTITUTE FOR PAIN RESEARCH AND CARE

The Michael G. DeGroote Institute for Pain Research and Care Seed Grants

The Michael G. DeGroote Institute for Pain Research and Care Seed Grants will provide principal investigators with an opportunity to apply for funds to pursue leading-edge research in pain, following the model of using persistent post-surgical pain to understand chronic pain.

The awards are designed for principal investigators pursuing pain research within the Michael G. DeGroote Institute for Pain Research and Care (IPRC). This program is funded by an endowment through the generosity of Mr. Michael G. DeGroote.

The Seed Grants are aimed to encourage and support pain research by jump-starting research projects. The objective is that it will lead to and support grant applications for other major external funding competitions.

Value and Number of Seed Grants

- Funding for up to three (3) Seed Grants annually is available with a value of up to \$30,000 each per year.
- The term of the award is not to exceed one (1) year.
- Additional funding required to support the project financially must be supplemented from the principal investigators own resources, or other external funding sources.

Review Criteria

- Seed Grants will be awarded to principal investigators who are faculty members of the Michael G. DeGroote Institute for Pain Research and Care.
- The IPRC seeks proposals of high scientific merit from principal investigators who will disseminate their work at high-impact conferences and in peer-reviewed scientific journals.
- Proposed projects must clearly demonstrate concordance with the mission and vision of the IPRC.
- Proposals will be evaluated according to the following criteria:
 - Significance:** Does the project address an important problem or a critical barrier to progress in the pain field?
 - Investigator(s):** Are the Principal Investigator (PI), collaborators and other researchers well-suited to the project? If the project is collaborative, do the investigators have complementary and integrated expertise?

Innovation: Does the application challenge and seek to shift current research or clinical practice paradigms by utilizing novel theoretical concepts, approaches or methodologies?

Approach: Is the overall strategy, methodology and analysis well-reasoned and appropriate to accomplish the specific aims of the project?

Environment: Will the scientific environment in which the work will be done contribute to the probability of success?

Additional Review Considerations

- **Budget:** The reasonableness of the proposed budget in relation to the proposed research plan.
- **Topic:** The relevance of the proposed research plan to the vision/goals of the Institute for Pain Research and Care (see 'IPRC Terms of Reference' appendix).

Application Process and Deadline

- Applications must be sent via email to the Scientific Director, Michael G. DeGroot, Institute for Pain Research and Care at npc@mcmaster.ca.
- Forward a single PDF document.
- Applications must include:
 - Covering letter
 - Project/Summary/Abstract (maximum 1 page)
 - Research Plan (maximum 4 pages to include specific aims, background/significance, research design and methods)
 - Budget (maximum 1 page)
 - Appendix
 - Curriculum Vitae
- Application deadline: November 15th

Selection Process

- The Selection Committee for the award will be comprised of the IPRC Executive Committee and IPRC Scientific Advisory Board (SAB). Applications will be evaluated for scientific and technical merit. The two-step process will include review by the IPRC Executive Committee then ranking by the SAB.
- Application decisions will be conveyed by February 28th. All applicants will be notified of the result of their submission.