Request for Proposals
2018 Pediatric Psoriasis Challenge Grant

Purpose:
Psoriasis is a common, chronic, systemic inflammatory disease that most commonly manifests on the skin and carries with it a significant disease burden\(^1\)\(^2\). In children and adolescents, psoriasis presents unique challenges as the disease burden is particularly high and treatment options are limited\(^3\). The overall rate of comorbid medical conditions in psoriasis patients under the age of 20 is double that of their peers who do not have psoriasis. Pediatric psoriasis patients are at higher risk for components of the metabolic syndrome, especially obesity, as well as dyslipidemia, diabetes, and hypertension. Of equal importance is the potentially detrimental effect of psoriasis on a child’s quality of life. Kids with psoriasis may suffer from poor self-esteem, depression and anxiety, which can persist into adulthood leading to poor work performance and other downstream effects\(^4\)\(^5\).

As a result, multiple agencies including the FDA\(^6\), CDC\(^7\), and WHO\(^8\) have recognized the need for more information about pediatric psoriasis and better options to manage psoriasis in this vulnerable population. In collaboration with the Pediatric Dermatology Research Alliance (PeDRA), the National Psoriasis Foundation (NPF) is seeking grant applications that encourage the advancement of innovative research into pediatric psoriasis. The 2018 Pediatric Psoriasis Challenge Grant will support projects that address any aspect of the disease, including the cause, diagnosis, or treatment of pediatric psoriasis and/or related comorbidities. Proposals from basic, translational, clinical, epidemiological, health services and other relevant research areas are all welcome.

Anticipated number of awards:
As many as two (2) Challenge Grants may be awarded in 2018. Awards are contingent upon the availability of funds and the receipt of sufficiently meritorious applications.

Budget:
Applicants may request up to $75,000 (direct costs only).

Project period:
The project period for this Request for Proposals is one year, from August 1, 2018 – July 31, 2019.

Eligibility:
The principal investigator must be personally and actively responsible for the conduct of the proposed research, and eligible to apply for research grants under the guidelines of his/her host institution. The principal investigator need not be a United States citizen and the research need not take place in the United States. Applicants from outside the field of pediatric dermatology are also strongly encouraged to apply. While not required, applications that provide evidence of collaboration with pediatric dermatologists will receive priority consideration.
Important dates:
Applications must be received by **FRIDAY, JAN. 19, 2018 at 5 P.M. PST.** Award notifications are expected to be made within three months of the close of applications and no later than **JUNE 30, 2018.**

Application:
Challenge Grant applications include a project proposal of no more than five (5) pages. The application along with all related forms can be found at [www.psoriasis.org/grants](http://www.psoriasis.org/grants).

Questions:
For more information on the 2018 Challenge Grant, please email us at research@psoriasis.org.

References:


5. Fox, Fiona E., Nichola Rumsey, and Marianne Morris. ""Ur skin is the thing that everyone sees and you can't change it!": Exploring the appearance-related concerns of young people with psoriasis." Developmental Neurorehabilitation 10.2 (2007): 133-141.

