

NIH 102 (NIH 101: The sequel)

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NIH 101 outline:

- NIH mission as an agency
- NIH IC missions and budgets
- Success rates
- Common funding mechanisms and when they are appropriate
- NIH funding updates (Common Fund)



Funding Mechanisms

- **Research Projects (R01, R03, R21)**
 - Solicited vs. Unsolicited
 - Generally due three times per year:
 - Feb 5, June 5 and Oct. 5 for R01
 - Feb 15, June 15 and Oct 15 for R03 and R21 proposals
- **Program Projects (P01)**
- **Cooperative Agreements (U01, U19)**





- Where should a grant proposal be targeted?
- How do I get it there?
- Whom do I contact to help me answer these questions?
- What should I do to help my proposal be reviewed well?
- What is in a summary statement and what does it mean?



- Where should a grant proposal be targeted?
 - How do I get it there?

Is there a special call for your proposal? If not: What is your problem? What gap are you filling?



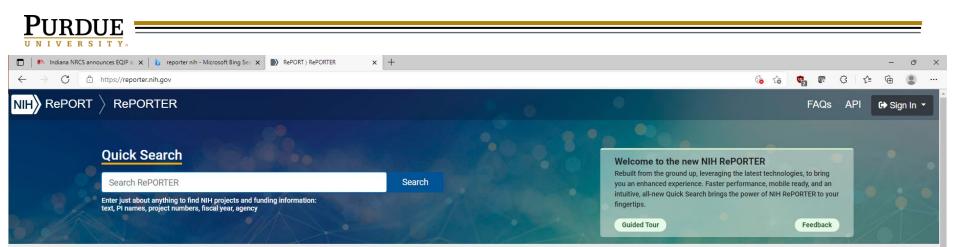
Targeting:

What is the problem?

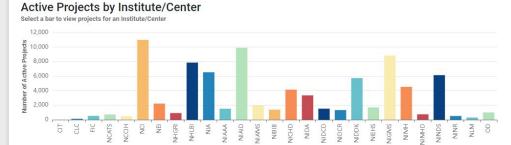
What has been done already to address this problem?

What is the gap that still remains (your north star)?

How do you propose to address this gap?







Advanced Projects Search			Matchmaker	
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Active Projects			review panels for your research.	
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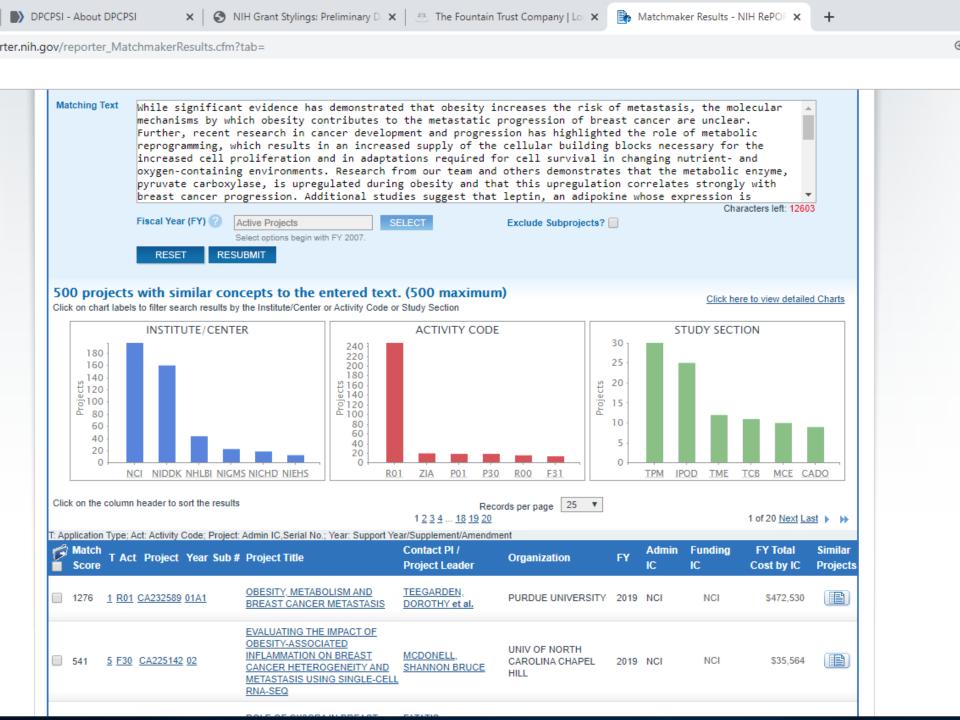
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Other Information:									
Study Section: Cellular Aspects of Diabetes and Obesity Study Project Start		-	r: 603847393 Date: 1-JAN-2019 Date: 1-JAN-2019		CFDA Code: 847 Project End Date: 31-DEC-2022 Budget End Date: 31-DEC-2019				
Administering Institutes or (Centers:								
NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF DI	ABETES AND DIGE	STIVE AND KIDNEY D	ISEASES						
Project Funding Information	for 2019:								
Total Funding: \$418,750				Direct Costs: \$	250,000	In	direct Costs	: \$168,75	0
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- How to approach a potential program officer:
 - Never email on a Monday or Friday
 - Introduce yourself (briefly) and give a short description of your research program/proposal
 - Ask for a brief phone call



• What should I do to help my proposal be reviewed well?

Preliminary/feasibility data Judicious use of figures Grammar and consistency of outline



The need for preliminary data

- Demonstrate that your proposed research is promising
- Demonstrate a credible ability to carry it out your proposal
- The more surprising the results the more data you will need to convince the reviewers
- Must convince the reviewers of a high likelihood of success
- Demonstrate that you can interpret or analyze data correctly
- The preliminary data must address your north star*. Do not include data that does not help you address the north star of the proposal
- Sometimes it is feasibility data
- Insert it in the proposal where it is relevant



*north star = the gap you are addressing



What should I do to help my lacksquareproposal be reviewed well? Judicious use of figures and white space **Grammar and consistency of outline** Know the mission and priorities of the IC(s) and address those



What should I do to help my proposal be reviewed well?

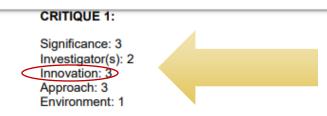
- Co-Pls, co-investigators, consultants
- Early stage investigators and/or new investigators
- "A hammer in search of a nail" versus innovation or merging into a new field



 What is in a summary statement and what does it mean?

PROGRAM CONTAC	SUMMARY STAT		Release Date: Revised Date:	12/12/2016
Principal Investigator		plication Numbe	er: 2 R01 Al098	472-06
GANDHI, MONICA				
Applicant Organizatio	on: UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, S	SAN FRANCISC	D	
Review Group:	BSCH Behavioral and Social Consequen	ces of HIV/AIDS	Study Section	
Meeting Date:	11/15/2016	RFA/PA:	PA16-160	
Council:	JAN 2017	PCC:	A23E	
Requested Start:	04/01/2017	Qual IC(s):	HD	
Project Title:	"Hair Extensions": Using Hair Lev Pharmacokinetics with Real-Work	els to Interpret /	dherence, Effec	
SRG Action:	Impact Score:15 Percentile:1			
	Visit http://grants.nih.gov/grants/n			
Human Subjects:	30-Human subjects involved - Cer			
Animal Subjects:	10-No live vertebrate animals invo		ingappl.	
Gender:	1A-Both genders, scientifically ac			
Minority: Children:	5A-Only foreign subjects, scientifi 1A-Both Children and Adults, scie Clinical Research - not NIH-define	ntifically accept	able	
Project	Direct Costs		Estimated	
Year	Requested		Total Cost	
6				
7				
8				
9				
10				
TOTAL				

ADMINISTRATIVE BUDGET NOTE: The budget shown is the requested budget and has not been adjusted to reflect any recommendations made by reviewers. If an award is planned, the costs will be calculated by Institute grants management staff based on the recommendations outlined below in the COMMITTEE BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS section.



Overall Impact: The investigators hypothesize that the AAV-mediated T cell response is dependent on the capsid dose response. The investigation will evaluate these types of responses and determine if they can be mitigated by reducing the empty capsids present in rAAV vector preparations. In addition, these T cell responses are dependent on capsid proteasome interactions and capsid ubiquitination. The investigators will use AAV capsid libraries that will lead to the creation of vectors with optimized human hepatocyte transduction and reduced immunogenicity. To do this, the investigators will study AAV antigen (Ag) presentation after exposure to various doses of empty capsids and or empty/full capsids. They will establish class I vs. II Ag presentation via use of two different knockout mouse strains. The importance of proteasome inhibitors and capsid ubiquitination will be evaluated. Ultimately novel AAV capsids will be isolated in a humanized mouse models. Variants found to be robust at transducing human hepatocytes in these mouse models will be further evaluated in B6 mice for their antigenicity. There is enthusiasm for attempting to define the parameters that are responsible for the T cell-mediated response in humans infused with various AAV vectors. There is real concern that the immune responses observed in the mouse models will not accurately predict the human condition as mice or any other animal models tested to date do not stimulate similar responses. Nevertheless, this proposal may ultimately provide additional insights into this important yet unexplained process as well as provide new AAV vectors that may have reduced immunogenicity in humans.

1. Significance:

Strengths

- The cell-mediated immune response in humans treated with AAV vectors remains a challenge and a better understanding of how AAV induces such responses will be an important step forward in developing a means to overcoming this limitation.
- While it may be obvious to some, the value of removing empty capsids from clinical grade AAV
 vectors remains controversial. Thus, providing solid data to support the removal of empty
 capsids is important to the field.
- Evaluating the T cell response in mice may provide important insights with the caveat listed below.

Weaknesses

- Although there has been great effort, no one has created an animal model that recapitulates the events that occur in humans. Thus it is not possible to know whether the events studied will be relevant to humans.
- The parameters that reduce antigen presentation may be inherently linked to efficacy and if so, capsids that have reduced immunogenicity may have reduced transduction.

2. Investigator(s):

Strengths:

 Dr. Samulski is a world leader in AAV vector biology. Dr. Li did two post docs, the last ended with Dr. Samulski in 2004. Together they have a strong publication record with Dr. Li as first author.

Weaknesses

 Is Dr. Li has few senior author papers. He has been a faculty for 10 years yet most if not all of his publications are with Dr. Samulski– many of which Dr. Samulski is the senior author.

3. Innovation:

Strengths

 Identifying effective humanized AAV variants that are resistant to ubiquitination result in a lower risk for activation of T cells is the most innovative feature of the proposal.

Weaknesses

 Most of the methods and approaches are not highly innovative because it involves approaches and methods that are relatively well established.

4. Approach:

Strengths

- The experiments are well described and the logical progression through each of the aims is easy to follow.
- To provide experimental support to show the proportion of empty capsids may influence the immune response is important. This is especially true because, as the investigators point out, not all of the T cell responses are dose dependent.
- The use of two serotypes, AAV-2 and AAV-8, are important because they have very different transduction efficiencies in mice.

Weaknesses

- The AAV-2 and AAV-8 variants, while having different transduction in mice, appear to have similar transduction in humans. The same may be true for the various capsid variants described herein.
- One mouse inbred strain is studied and the immune parameters measured may have nothing to do with the human condition.
- How is the capsid load ultimately removed from the cell if ubiquinition and other degradation
 pathways are blocked -- especially in terms of alternate processing and ultimate alternative
 antigen loading processing?