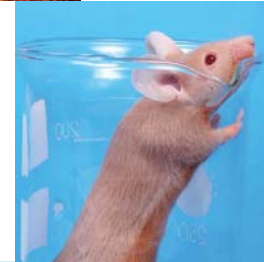


Funding Opportunities for Neurofibromatosis Research and Clinical Care



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Children's
Tumor 
Foundation™
Ending Neurofibromatosis Through Research

What is Neurofibromatosis (NF)?

Neurofibromatosis:

- Encompasses three distinct genetic disorders: NF1, NF2 and Schwannomatosis;
- Causes tumors to grow on nerves anywhere in the body;
- Can cause deafness, blindness, learning disabilities, bone deformities, debilitating pain and heart defects;
- Affects 1 in 3,000 births - more than cystic fibrosis, Duchenne muscular dystrophy and Huntington's disease combined;
- 50% of NF cases are inherited and 50% are caused by a spontaneous genetic mutation.

There is currently no drug treatment for NF.

Foundation Programs Overview

Discovery Research: The Young Investigator Award funds critical research while fostering the careers of young researchers.

Drug Discovery Initiative Awards funds and facilitates early-stage preclinical screening of candidate NF therapies.

The NF Preclinical Consortium Program accelerates the identification of effective drug therapies, screening candidate NF drugs in multiple tumor models of NF.

The Pilot Clinical Trials Program accelerates research to the clinic by funding pilot trials - early stage, small patient number studies to get initial data on whether a drug has potential clinical efficacy.

Clinical Care: The NF Clinic Network aims to improve the national standard of NF clinical care and the lives of those living with the disorder. The Clinic Network also provides funding for NF Clinic Coordinators.



Dr. Ernesto Diaz-Flores of University of California, San Francisco, 2006 YIA Recipient, Title of award: *Dissecting Aberrant Ras Signaling Induced By Nf1 Inactivation In Myeloid Diseases*

Young Investigator Awards

Q: What is it?

A: A grant program that funds basic and translational NF research by early career scientists.

Q: What funds does it offer?

A: Two year grants including salary (NIH commensurate) plus travel allowance.

Q: Who can apply?

A: Pre-doctoral or post-doctoral researchers, with or pursuing an MD, Ph.D. or equivalent, no more than 7 years past the completion of their first doctoral degree. Applications welcomed from qualified individuals worldwide.

Q: How do I apply?

A: By completing the current YIA application (Available at: www.ctf.org).

Q: When is the YIA application deadline?

A: There is one deadline per year, with applications due in February. Check www.ctf.org for the latest dates.

Drug Discovery Initiative Awards: Preclinical Drug Screening

Q: What is it?

A: The Drug Discovery Initiative (DDI) award is a seed-grant program which provides funding for early-stage in vivo or in vitro screens of candidate NF therapeutics.

Q: What funds does it offer?

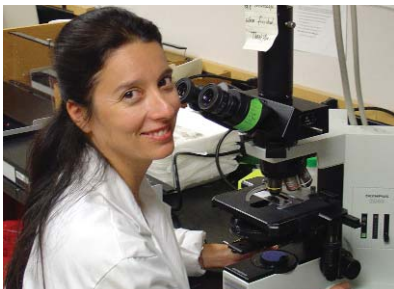
A: It offers seed grants of up to \$27,500.

Q: Who can apply?

A: Applicants should have a MD, Ph.D. or equivalent. They need not be laboratory heads, but must have access to all resources needed. Applicants from academia and the private sector are welcomed, and partnerships between the two are encouraged. Applications are welcomed from all qualified individuals worldwide.

Q: When is the deadline?

A: There are three deadlines annually: February 28, June 30 and October 31.



Dr. Emmanuelle di Tomaso of Massachusetts General Hospital, June 2007 DDI Award Recipient, Title of Award: *Targeting vessels and tumor cells in NF2 schwannomas*

NF Preclinical Consortium

Q: What is it?

A: The preclinical consortium is a \$5M expansion of our DDI program to accelerate NF research and the clinics. This four-year program will identify effective drug therapies and screen candidate NF drugs in multiple tumor models of NF. More information on the consortium and participating centers can be found at www.ctf.org.



DDI Toolbox

The DDI Toolbox is an online resource listing and partnering forum for NF drug screening.

The Toolbox includes:

- NF cell lines, animal models and other resources available for use in preclinical NF drug screening
- Drugs available for screening as candidate NF therapies

Tools are submitted to the DDI Toolbox by academic researchers, and biotechnology and pharmaceutical companies.

For more information visit <https://www.ctf.org/for-scientists/ddi-toolbox/>

Pilot Clinical Trials Program

Q: What is it?

A: As part of our new \$5M initiative to accelerate research to the clinic, the Foundation will fund small-scale, pilot NF clinical trials. Our focus will be on funding early-stage, small patient number studies to get initial data on whether a drug has potential clinical efficacy.

Q: What funds does it offer?

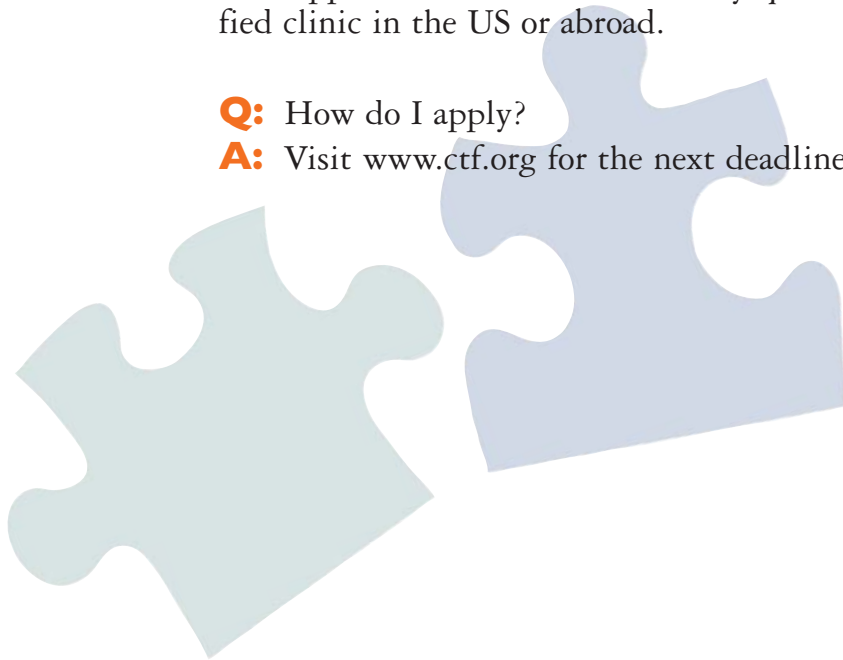
A: Laboratories may apply for up to \$125,000.

Q: Who can apply?

A: Applications can come from any qualified clinic in the US or abroad.

Q: How do I apply?

A: Visit www.ctf.org for the next deadline.



The NF Clinic Network

Q: What is it?

A: The NF Clinic Network (NFCN) aims to improve clinical care for those living with NF, promote information sharing between NF Clinic, and integrate NF clinical care, research and clinical trials. NFCN recognizes Affiliate Clinics - those that provide appropriate NF care through implementation of current consensus clinical care guidelines.

Q: What funds does it offer?

A: Once recognized, Affiliate Clinics may apply for up to \$50,000/year to support a NF Clinic Coordinator (*subject to funding availability*).

Q: Who can apply?

A: Any clinic in the US that sees NF patients may apply to be a CTF-NFCN Affiliate Clinic. ▶

Left to right: Dr. Tena Rosser and Dr. Linda Randolph of the NF Clinic at the Children's Hospital of Los Angeles.



The NF Clinic Network *(cont'd)*

Q: How do I apply?

A: Complete the CTF-NFCN Affiliate Clinic Application. This is an opportunity for you to provide CTF with information about your NF Clinic and also to express interest in NF Clinic Coordinator Funding.

Q: When is the deadline?

A: Applications are received and evaluated on a 'rolling' basis. You will be informed as soon as possible whether you have been approved as a CTF-NFCN Affiliate Clinic.

Q: How do Affiliate Clinics then apply for NF Clinic Coordinator Funding?

A: This is dependent upon local CTF fundraising in your region. If you have expressed interest in your initial CTF-NFCN Affiliate Clinic Application, you will be notified when funds are available and how to apply.

About CTF

The Children's Tumor Foundation is committed to ending neurofibromatosis (NF) through research and has committed over \$28M to research since 1978, supporting innovative new ideas and bringing early-career scientists into the NF field.

Our programs recognize the integration between NF research and clinical care, and both catalyze and drive this interaction.

In addition to providing funding, the Children's Tumor Foundation:

- Convenes key NF research meetings and consensus workshops;
- Serves as a premier source of NF information for scientists and laypersons;
- Works closely with federal agencies to set research priorities and ensure NF research funding;
- Annually, hosts the NF Conference, the premier meeting of NF in June for scientist and clinicians worldwide.

For more information about our programs, visit our website: www.ctf.org or contact:

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