

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES THROUGH THE

New Joint ROTRF/JDRF Initiative



The Roche Organ Transplantation Research Foundation (ROTRF) and the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation International (JDRF) are proud to announce a **New Joint ROTRF/JDRF Initiative** to support projects in immunology and biology research relevant to pancreatic islet transplantation, and transplantation solutions for human type 1 diabetes. Investigators working in the fields of immunology and cell biology, gene therapy, cellular engineering, stem cell research (e.g. generation of islet/beta cell source from stem cells or other cell sources, novel interventions leading to immune tolerance) and other approaches that are relevant to both type 1 diabetes and transplantation, are strongly encouraged to apply.

Eligibility:

Established faculty members of academic staff at universities, transplant and diabetes centres, and research institutes are eligible for this Joint ROTRF/JDRF Initiative.

Research areas funded by the ROTRF/JDRF joint initiative:

- Transplantation approaches to human type 1 diabetes
- Islet transplantation (incl. deceased donor islets) for therapeutic use in type 1 diabetic patients
- Development of new approaches (incl. stem cell transplantation) for improvements of graft survival and/or of long-term immunosuppression in type 1 diabetic patients
- Cellular engineering (incl. gene therapy) for therapeutic use in human transplantation relevant to types 1 diabetes
- Investigations of alternative sources of pancreatic islets/beta cells for use in transplantation
- Quantification and functional determination of islets/beta cells for use in replacement therapy

Deadlines for submission for Letters of Intent: 1 April and 1 October of each year.

Important deadlines:

| LOI deadline | Full application deadline | Final Review and Decisions |
|----------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1 April 2007 | July 2007 | September 2007 |
| 1 October 2007 | January 2008 | March 2008 |
| 1 April 2008 | July 2008 | September 2008 |
| 1 October 2008 | January 2009 | March 2009 |

Submission information can be found at: <http://www.rotrf.org/LetterOfIntent.idc>

Evaluation criteria:

- Relevance to islets transplantation and transplantation solution to type 1 diabetes
- Scientific excellence
- Originality
- Potential translation to human type 1 diabetes and impact in the clinical setting within 3 years

Application, Evaluation, and Grant Award Procedures:

This Joint ROTRF/JDRF Initiative follows the application procedures of the general ROTRF grants. The applications are evaluated by ROTRF and JDRF Scientific Advisors. The decision on the grant awards is a joint process between the ROTRF and the JDRF.

Applications submitted for this Joint ROTRF/JDRF Initiative should be relevant to islet cell transplantation, and transplantation solutions for human type 1 diabetes.

The terms of the grant awards (amount and period of support per grant, frequency of the awards) follows the terms of the general ROTRF grant award competition. The maximum grant will be 300,000 Swiss Francs over 3 years.

Unsuccessful applicants in the New ROTRF/JDRF Initiative may still be considered for a ROTRF or JDRF grant award.

Information on the Roche Organ Transplantation Research Foundation can be found at <http://www.rotrf.org>