

SPECIALIZED CENTERS OF RESEARCH IN ARTHRITIS AND MUSCULOSKELETAL DISEASES

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National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases

Application Receipt Date: March 4, 1987

BACKGROUND

The National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases (NIAMS) announces a national competition to encourage submission of research center applications (P50), which will establish a limited number of Specialized Centers of Research (SCOR) in arthritis and musculoskeletal diseases.

Disorders of the joints and connective tissues continue to afflict approximately 36 million Americans. More than 100 disorders are categorized under the term arthritis. Basic research has generated new findings that have led to advances in knowledge and an increased understanding of rheumatic and musculoskeletal disorders and their treatment. The availability of resources provided by the SCOR will make it possible for new groups of investigators to capitalize on recently proposed research recommendations and opportunities.

RESEARCH GOALS AND SCOPE

The goal of this RFA is to solicit applications for Specialized Centers of Research in three areas of special importance to the NIAMS:

- * Rheumatoid Arthritis
- * Osteoarthritis
- * Osteoporosis

The proposed multidisciplinary Specialized Centers of Research would capitalize on existing geographic aggregates of basic and clinical investigators who are capable of using advanced technology to pursue research on specific diseases. SCOR programs would encourage active collaboration among investigators and scientific disciplines involved in arthritis and musculoskeletal diseases research.

MECHANISM OF SUPPORT

Support for this program will be through the grant-in-aid, using the Specialized Center of Research, and will be governed by policies of grant programs of the National Institutes of Health. Support for the centers is contingent upon ultimate receipt of appropriated funds for this purpose.

METHOD OF APPLYING

Center applications in response to this announcement will be evaluated in national competition by a Special Review Committee convened by the NIAMS. Due to time constraints it is unlikely that site visits will be conducted during the review process. Deadline for receipt of applications will be March 4, 1987; a letter of intent is requested before December 15, 1986. No waiver of the receipt date will be considered. Any application arriving later than the stated receipt date will be returned to the applicant. The expected starting date for funded projects will be approximately September 1, 1987.

Potential applicants may request additional information, copies of the complete RFA, and guidelines for preparing an application for a Specialized Center of Research from:

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