



UK Dementia
Research Institute



Dementia
Discovery
Fund

D³A

DDF & UK DRI Discovery Accelerator
Request for Proposals
October 2018

BACKGROUND

The Dementia Discovery Fund ('DDF') is the world's largest venture fund focused entirely on discovering and developing novel therapies for dementia, including Alzheimer's disease. The DDF recently completed its fundraising, with £250 million (\$350 million at the time of completion) raised from an influential group of strategic and financial investors committed to developing new medicines for dementia. The DDF is a global effort bringing together funding from the private sector, charity, and industry from all over the world.

www.theddfund.com

The UK Dementia Research Institute ('DRI') is a joint £290 million investment from the MRC, Alzheimer's Society and Alzheimer's Research UK. The institute is breaking new ground by bringing together world-leading expertise in biomedical, care and translational dementia research in a national institute. They conduct basic and applied research relevant to all dementias, including Alzheimer's, Parkinson's, frontotemporal dementia, vascular dementia, Huntington's and beyond.

www.ukdri.ac.uk

DDF and UK DRI have joined forces to launch a dementia-dedicated accelerator that will identify, support and nurture early stage projects that will advance our capacity to treat or prevent dementia. The aim of the DDF and UK DRI Discovery Accelerator ("D³A") is to provide creative and entrepreneurial dementia researchers with the support they need to advance their projects from exciting ideas to commercial opportunities. This RFP invites proposals for projects that would benefit from D³A resources including funding, mentoring, business development and project guidance.

PROGRAMME

The purpose of this programme is to identify early stage dementia-focussed projects that may lead to the development and commercialization of novel therapeutics aimed at treating and preventing dementia, and to support and nurture those projects through their early development with the intention of establishing a strong business case for the further development and commercialization of a product.

The D³A invites proposals from the UK DRI centres and other academic UK-based research groups. The programme covers all forms of dementia. The focus in this call is on therapeutic targets and therapeutics. In all cases, the applicant must establish an unambiguous benefit to patients and must demonstrate a clear path toward commercialization.

Support will be tailored specifically to each project. In addition to direct funding, support may include space, reagents and other enabling technical support, business development advice, scientific guidance and mentoring.

Projects are invited for one of two tracks:

- Track 1: £100,000 (direct costs) for 12 months
- Track 2: £100,000 (direct costs) year 24 months

We anticipate funding multiple applications in this first round and the RFP is planned to be repeated in April 2019, October 2019 and April 2020)

SUPPORT AVAILABLE

The D³A will provide support for appropriate projects, including:

- Funding, either track 1 (£100,000 for 1 year) or track 2 (£200,000 over 2 years), direct costs
- Business development and tech transfer advice, aimed at creating business opportunities such as licensing, spin-outs, start-ups or other commercial structures designed to build value into the project
- Science advice and support with the purpose of helping you define and refine the scientific challenges and goals of the project
- Space may be available for certain projects including temporary access to modern and well equipped laboratory and/or administrative environments
- A dynamic and enthusiastic environment of like-minded entrepreneurs all working on developing and commercializing the next generation of dementia-relevant products
- A prestigious and expert platform from which to advance your work

IMPORTANT DATES

Request for proposals released:	23 October 2018
Proposals due:	14 January 2019
Short listed applicants informed:	14 February 2019

SELECTION CRITERIA

- **Eligibility:** This programme is open to researchers based at not-for-profit organizations within academia, foundations and other organizations. Applicants must be willing and able to grant customary licensing and other commercialization authority. Details will be discussed with shortlisted applicants
- **Significance:** Does the proposal address an important biological mechanism that would advance our ability or capacity to treat or prevent dementia?
- **Novelty:** Does the proposal describe a new and innovative therapeutic approach?
- **Path Forward:** If the aims of the proposal are achieved, is it likely to lead to a successful business development opportunity? Are appropriate milestones and go/no-go decision points clearly defined? What is the primary indication most appropriate for this therapeutic?
- **Capacity:** Is the applicant qualified to complete the proposed work and is the proposed work commensurate with the funding track requested?
- **Fit:** Will the project benefit from the support available via the D³A?

APPLICATION PROCESS

Proposals will be considered via a two-step process involving a written application (see below) followed by an invitation to discuss your proposal with the D³A team.

Proposals should consist of:

1. Completed cover page
2. Two-page (1,000 word maximum) project proposal including:
 - i. Summary of aims (200 words)
 - ii. Scientific landscape (100 words)
 - iii. Preliminary studies (200 words)
 - iv. R&D proposal including research to be undertaken, data to be collected and key milestones (500 words)
3. Time line including specific milestones (1 page)
4. Business case: The commercialization opportunity and path forward (1 page)
5. Key references (½page)
6. Budget outline (½ page)

The above material must be assembled into a single PDF (not to exceed six pages) and emailed to: apply@d3accelerator.com

Proposals must be received by midnight 14th January 2019

For enquiries about the application package please contact: apply@d3accelerator.com



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COVER PAGE

1.1 Applicant details

Name	
Position held	
Department	
Institution	
Email address	
Direct telephone number	
Personal Asst. name	
Personal Asst. email address	
Personal Asst. tel. number	

1.2 Programme title (max 200 characters including spaces)

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1.3 Executive summary (max 400 words)

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1.4 Host details

University , foundation or other organization	
Organisation officer sponsoring application	
Position held	