



National Institute of  
Neurological Disorders  
and Stroke

# NINDS Programs for Translational Research

**ICARE**

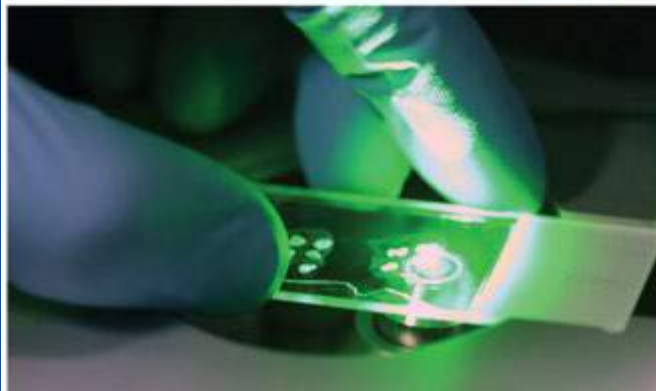
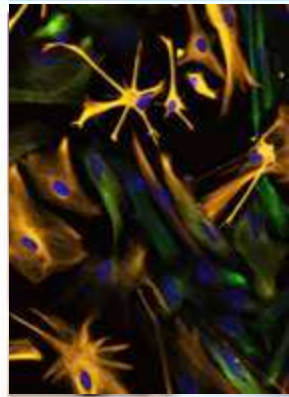
April 12, 2018

**Amir Tamiz, PhD**

Director, Division of Translational  
Research

NIH/NINDS

[amir.tamiz@nih.gov](mailto:amir.tamiz@nih.gov)



# The National Institutess of Health

There are **27** different Institutes and Centers (ICs), **24** of which award grants.

Each one has:

- Different missions
- Different funding priorities
- Different budgets
- Different types of grants they support
- Different procedures for making funding decisions
- Different funding strategies



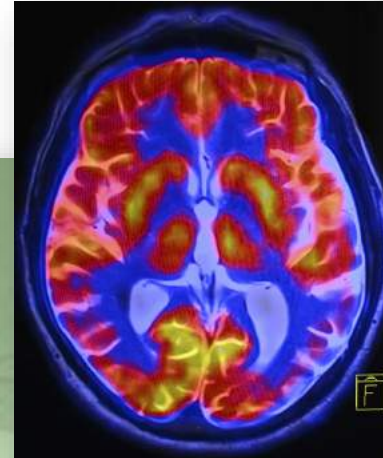
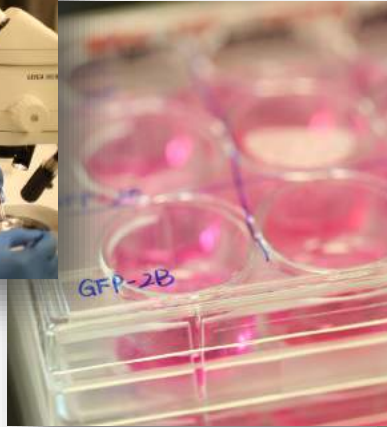
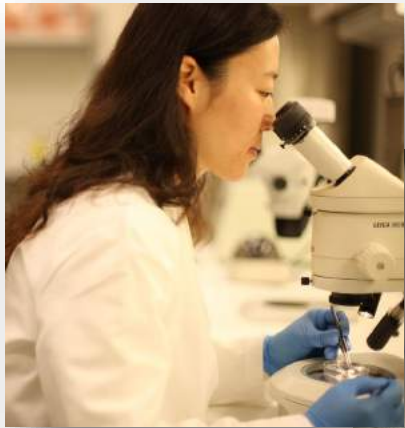
## The Mission of NINDS

*...is to seek fundamental knowledge about the brain and nervous system and to use that knowledge to reduce the burden of neurological disease.*

## The Mission of NINDS DTR

*To accelerate basic research findings towards patient use for neurological disorders and stroke by providing funding, expertise, and resources to the research community*

# NINDS Is Investing Across the Research Spectrum



## Basic

*Disease-Focused Research  
Identify Targets*

## Translational

*Assay Development  
Pre-Clinical Research*

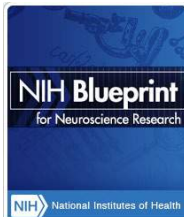
## Clinical

*Phase I, II, III Trials  
FDA Review*



# Investing Across the Translational Spectrum

## Grants



## Resources

### Training



Epilepsy Therapy Screening Program (ETSP)

## Contracts

ADME/Tox.



Chemistry



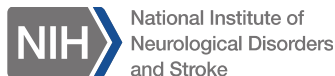
Manufacturing



Clinical



## Preclinical and Early Clinical Trials



## Grants

Dissemination and  
Implementation  
Research in Health (R01)



NeuroNEXT Clinical Trial  
(U01)



StrokeNet Clinical trials  
& Biomarkers (X01)



Neurological Emergencies  
Treatment Trials (NETT)

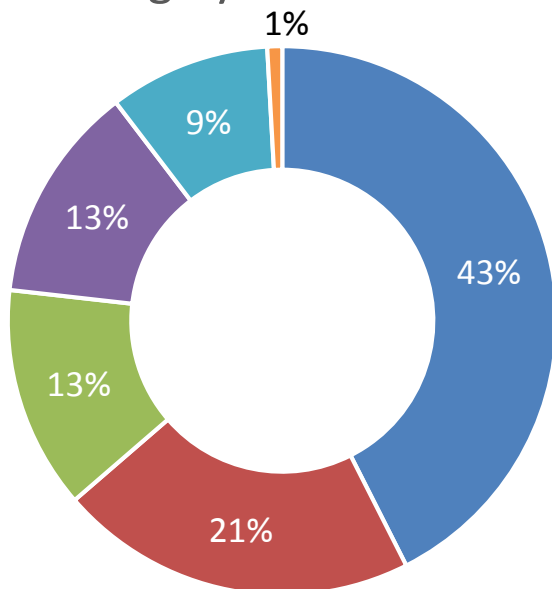


## Clinical Trials and Infrastructure Resource



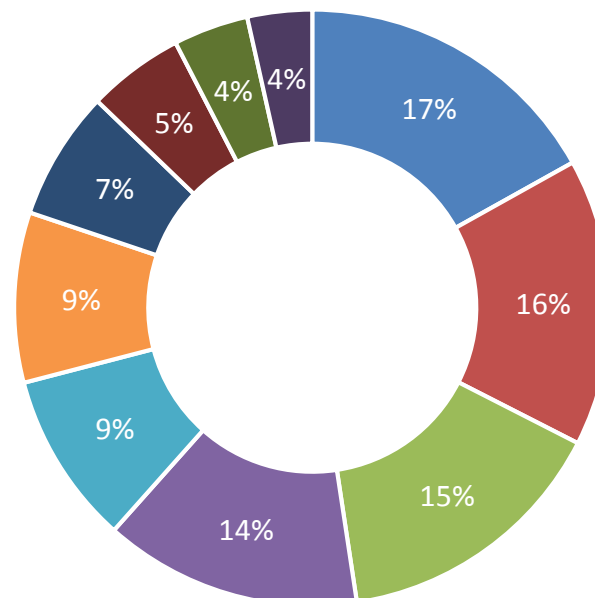
# 2017 Portfolio – >200 Projects

## Funding by Research Area



- Therapeutic small molecule, \$47 M
- Therapeutic biologic, \$23.4 M
- Research tool/animal model, \$14.5 M
- Therapeutic/prevention device, \$14.2 M
- Diagnostic device/ biomarker, \$10.5 M
- Other (contracts, etc), \$1 M

## Funding by Indication



- Stroke, \$18.7 M
- Countermeasure, \$17.3 M
- Neurodegeneration, \$16.7 M
- Genetic/rare disease, \$15.5 M
- Injury, \$10.4 M
- Epilepsy, \$10.2 M
- Neuroscience research tools, \$7.8 M
- Multiple/other, \$5.8 M
- Pain, \$4.5 M
- Brain tumor, \$3.9 M

Total: \$111 M

# Funding for Basic Research

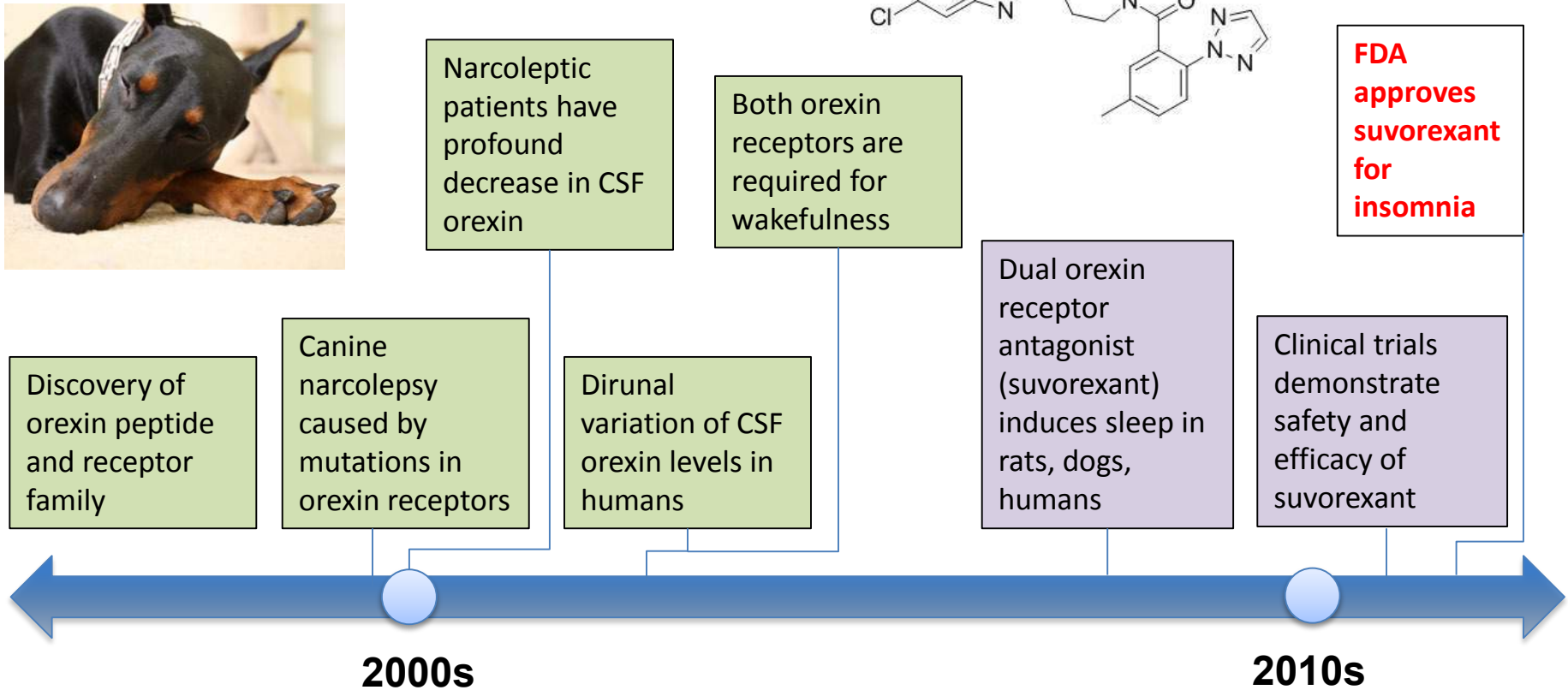
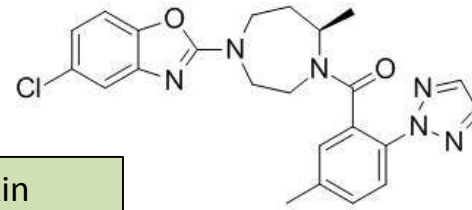
## Funding

At least partial NINDS  
or NIH support

Other



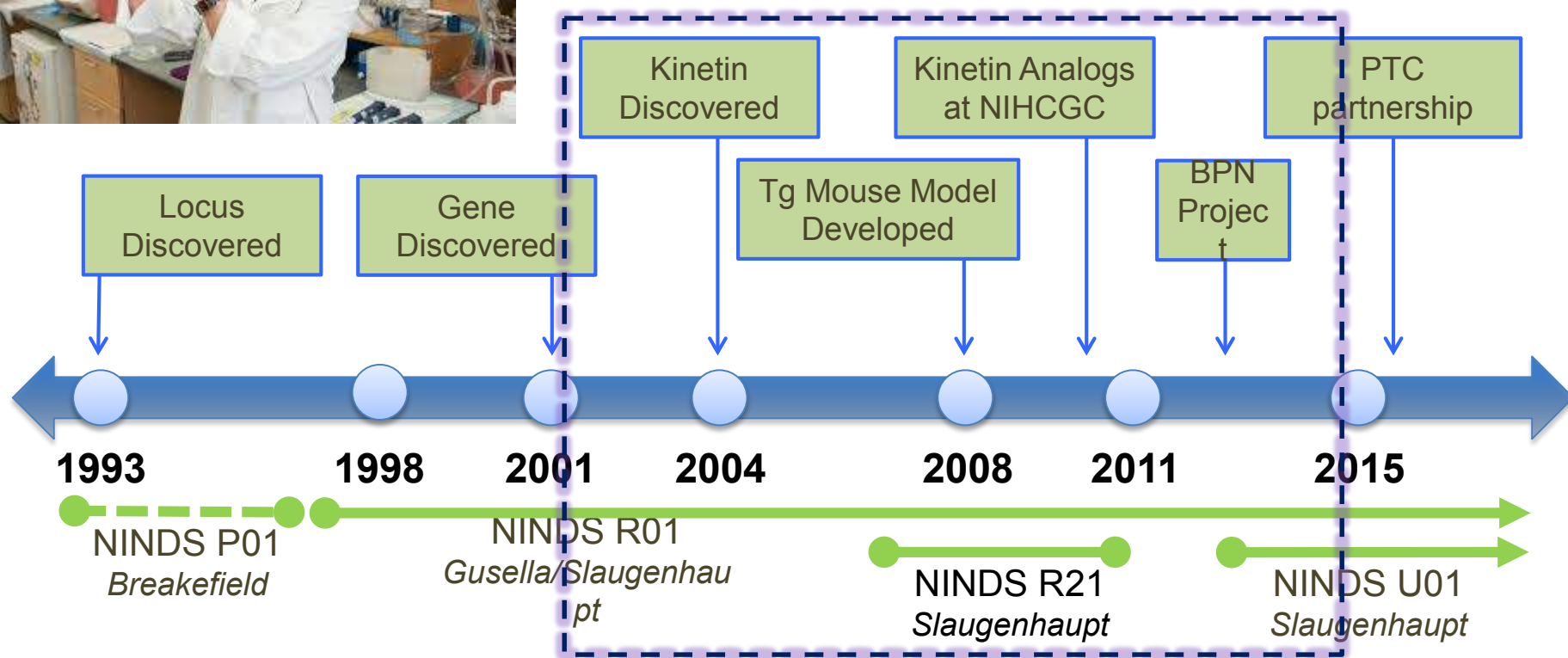
## Suvorexant for Insomnia



# Funding to Bridge Bench to Bedside



## NINDS Support for Familial Dysautonomia Research



### Additional Public/Private Funding

Dysautonomia Foundation  
Israeli Science Ministry  
Harvard Center for Neurodegeneration and Repair  
US Israel Binational Science Foundation





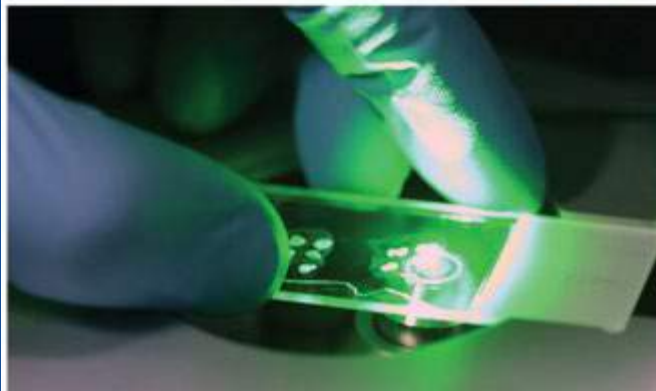
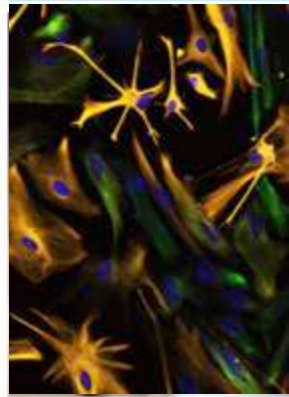
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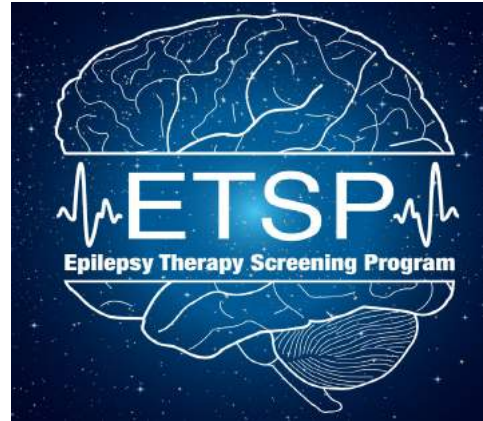
# Epilepsy Therapy Screening Program (ETSP)

**ICARE**

**April 12, 2018**

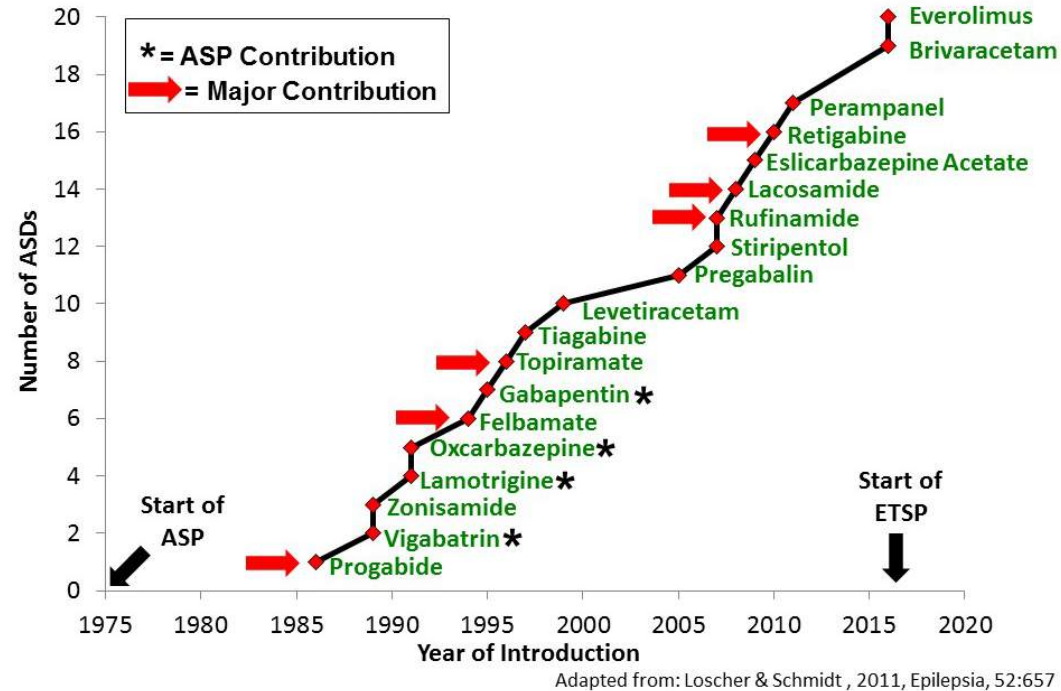
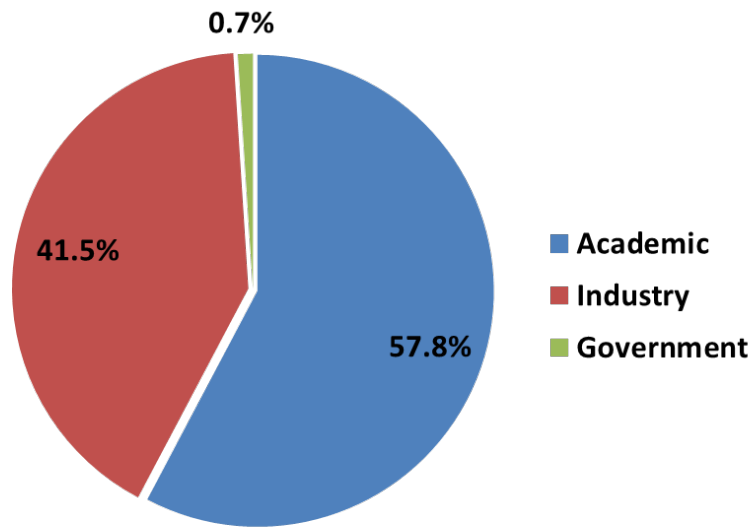
**John Kehne, PhD**  
Program Director, ETSP  
NIH/NINDS  
[John.kehne@nih.gov](mailto:John.kehne@nih.gov)





***To facilitate the discovery of new therapeutic agents addressing the unmet medical needs in epilepsy***

# A Strong Foundation: Anticonvulsant Screening Program(ASP)



- Established in 1975 to facilitate the discovery of new antiseizure drugs
- Free testing in rodent antiseizure screens (University of Utah)
- >600 total participants, academia/industry, from 38 countries
- 32,000 compounds tested
- Contributed to advancement of 9 antiseizure drugs to the market

# ETSP is the “Next Generation”

## **New name reflects expanded mission**

- Pharmacoresistant epilepsy
- Disease prevention and modification

## **External Consultant Board established**

- Feedback on testing strategy, model development and program direction
- Members: Amy Brooks-Kayal, M.D.; Henrik Klitgaard, Ph.D., Wolfgang Loescher, Ph.D., Steve Perrin, Ph.D.

***→ ETSP continues to offer screening services free of charge to qualified applicants from around the world***

# Current Contract

## **Current Contract Cycle: Sept 2015 to Sept 2020**

- Awarded after open competition

## **Prime Contract site: University of Utah**

- Principal Investigator: Karen Wilcox, Ph.D.
- Two subcontract sites perform additional specialized studies
  - SynapCell (France)
  - University of Washington (Seattle WA)

## **Administrative Staff (NINDS)**

- John Kehne, Ph.D. (Program Director)
- Brian Klein, Ph.D. (Scientific Project Manager)
- Shamsi Raeissi, Ph.D. (Scientific Project Manager)
- Shalini Sharma, M.S. (Program Analyst, Chemist Specialist)
- Ana Garcia, B.S. (Program Coordinator)
- Dhananjaya Kempegowda, B.E. (IT Specialist)



# Key Principles of ETSP Testing

## **Ensure that compound submissions are high quality**

- Strict criteria for identity and purity
- Chemical/biological rationale and other supporting data used to evaluate suitability for compound entry into the program

## **Align screening with specific goals for different types of treatments**

- Generate separate screening flows
- Incorporate etiologic models relevant to human pathophysiology
- Build comparative pharmacology databases
- Monitor the effectiveness of screening flows and decision trees, and make modifications as needed

# Pharmacoresistance Epilepsy Workflow

## IDENTIFICATION

### Acute Seizure Models

- *6 Hz Electrical Stimulation (mouse, rat)*
- *Maximal Electroshock Test (mouse, rat)*

### Behavioral Toxicity Screens

- *Rotarod (mouse)*
- *Neurological Impairment (rat)*
- *Locomotor Activity (rat)*

### Chronic Seizure Models

- *Corneal Kindled Seizure Test (mouse)*
- *Spontaneous Bursting Slice from Post-kainate Status Epilepticus Rat (in vitro)*

## DIFFERENTIATION

Mesial Temporal  
Lobe Epilepsy  
Model (*mouse*)

Lamotrigine-  
Resistant Amygdala  
Kindling (*rat*)

Post-Kainate Status  
Epilepticus-Induced  
Spontaneous  
Recurrent Seizures  
(*rat*)

*Video-EEG monitoring*

# Other ETSP Performance Areas

## Special Populations

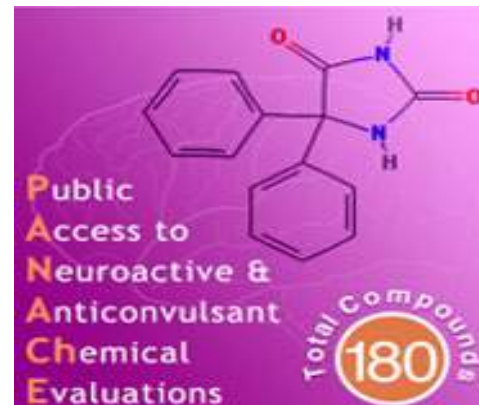
- Viral-induced epilepsy
  - Theiler's murine encephalitis virus (TMEV) induces seizures in C57Bl/6 mice
  - Strong inflammatory signal → seizures and epileptogenesis
  - Potential value for evaluating novel drug interventions
- Acute benzodiazepine-resistant status epilepticus
  - Lithium/Pilocarpine model (rat)

## Antiepileptogenesis & Disease Modification

- Mouse mTLE model (focal hippocampal kainic acid injection)
- Mouse mTLE model (focal amygdala kainic acid injection; in development)
- Rat chronic epilepsy model (spontaneous recurring seizures in rats previously exposed to kainic acid induced status epilepticus)

# Learn More about ETSP Testing

- PANACHe (**P**ublic **A**ccess to **N**euroactive and **A**nticonvulsant **C**hemical **E**valuations) Website  
<http://panache.ninds.nih.gov>
- Publicly-accessible database for *non-confidential data* on compounds tested by the ETSP
- Include non-proprietary compounds that probe specific mechanisms of action
- Provides detailed information on test data, test protocols & flowcharts
- 180 total compounds in database to date, more coming
- Goal: become increasingly useful as an epilepsy drug discovery tool





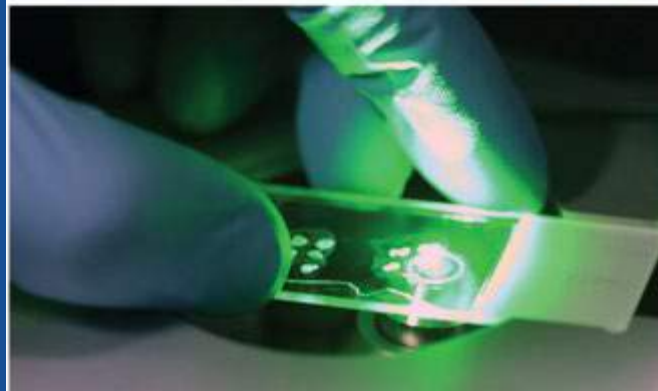
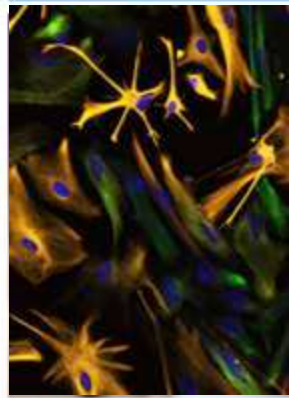
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# Innovation Grants to Nurture Initial Translational Efforts (IGNITE)

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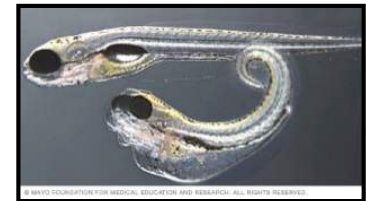
**Mary Ann Pellemounter, PhD**  
Program Director  
Division of Translational Research  
NINDS/NIH  
[mary.pellemounter@nih.gov](mailto:mary.pellemounter@nih.gov)





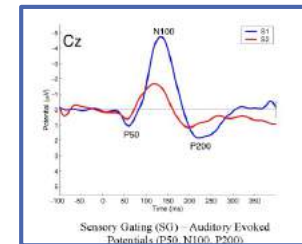
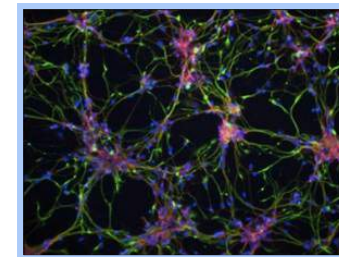
# IGNITE: A Suite of Early Translational Funding Opportunities

1. PAR-15-070: Assay Development and Therapeutic Agent Identification and Characterization
2. PAR-15-071: Pharmacodynamics and In vivo Efficacy Studies
3. RFA-NS-16-013: Development and Validation of Translational Model Systems for Drug Discovery



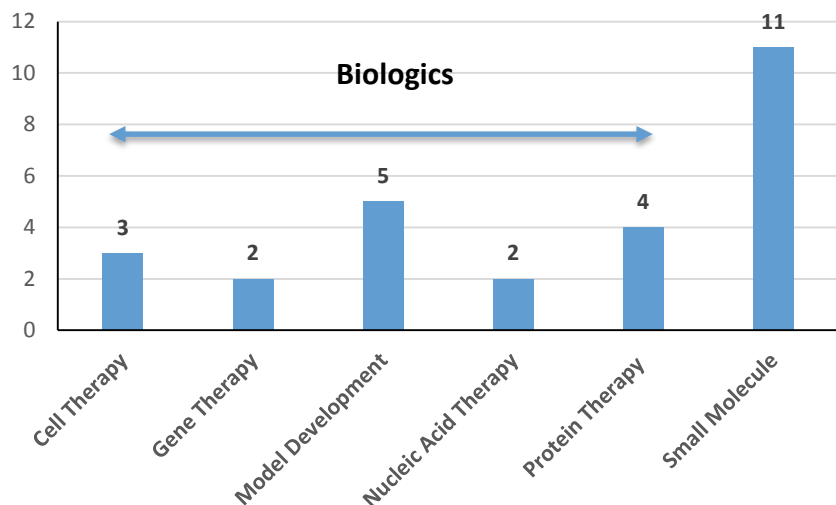
*Uses a Phased R61/R33 Milestone-Driven Grant Mechanism*

*Budget: ≤\$499,000 in Any One Year; ≤\$750,000 for Entire Project*

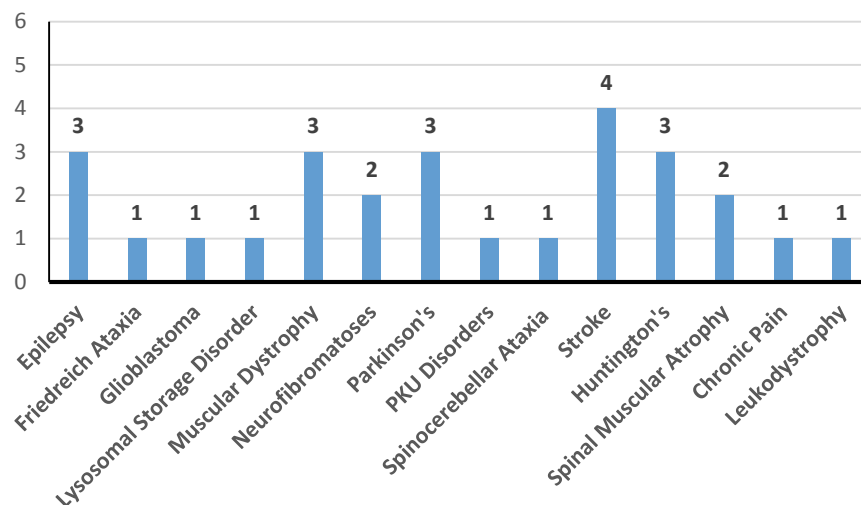


# Snapshot of IGNITE Portfolio

IGNITE Modality Portfolio (n=27)



IGNITE Indication Portfolio (n=27)



## Awarded Epilepsy IGNITE Projects

Project Title	Indication	Awardee Institution	IGNITE Funding Opportunity	Project Completion Year
Inhibitors of TrkB Signaling	Temporal Lobe Epilepsy	Duke University	PAR-15-070 Assay Development and Hit Identification	2019
Anti-Convulsant Screening Using Chronic Epilepsy Models	Chronic Epilepsy	Massachusetts General Hospital	PAR-15-070 Assay Development and Hit Identification	2020
EP2 Antagonists as Novel Anti-Epileptogenic Agents	Post-Traumatic Epilepsy	Emory University	PAR-15-071 In Vivo Efficacy	2020

# Most Advanced Project: Small Molecule Inhibitors of TrkB Activation of PLC $\gamma$ 1

*James McNamara, Duke University*

- Temporal lobe epilepsy (TLE): a common form of epilepsy that lacks preventive and disease modifying therapy
- Extensive target validation with genetic evidence: uncoupling TrkB from PLC $\gamma$ 1 (with a peptide) *transiently following* status epilepticus prevents TLE in animal model > 1 month later
- Developed a high throughput screen that identified multiple small molecule chemotypes that inhibit TrkB interaction with PLC $\gamma$ 1
- Currently identifying hits that satisfy potency and selectivity criteria
- Exploring entry into BPN program for lead identification and optimization

# PAR-15-070: Assay Development and Hit Identification

## Goals

- To develop and validate primary and secondary screening assays
- To utilize these screening assays to identify new therapeutic agents
- To conduct focused optimization of these new therapeutic agents

## Supported Activities

- Assay Development and Validation
- Screening (including HTS) and Hit Identification
- Focused *in vitro* Hit Characterization and Optimization



## Goal

To demonstrate that early-stage neurotherapeutics (novel or re-purposed) have sufficient biological activity to warrant investment in later stage discovery and development, such as CREATE, BPN or alternative funding programs

## Supported Activities

- Physicochemical/biophysical characterization
- Pharmacokinetic evaluation
- Proof of concept: In vivo efficacy and pharmacodynamic evaluation

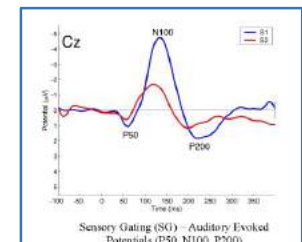




# RFA-NS-16-013: Development of Model Systems and Pharmacodynamic Markers

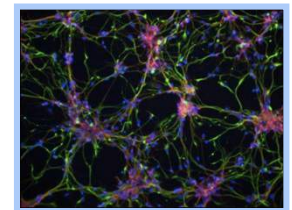
## Goals

- To develop a fully validated model system, testing paradigm or PD marker that can be used in both preclinical and clinical settings to test the biological effects of a candidate neurotherapeutic agent
- To promote early development of pharmacodynamic markers (PD) used in the discovery of neurotherapeutics
- To promote a significant improvement in the translational relevance of preclinical models and tools used in the discovery of neurotherapeutics



## Supported Activities

- Development of animal models, ex vivo model systems and pharmacodynamic markers for use in drug discovery and development
- Internal and external validation of animal models, ex vivo model systems and pharmacodynamic markers



# New Neuroscience Biomarker Program: Quick Summary

**Goal:** *Facilitate the development of high quality biomarkers to improve the quality and efficiency of clinical research (Phase II and beyond)*

## ❖ Four NINDS Funding Opportunities Supporting a “Fit For Purpose” Validation Process

### Analytical Validation of a Candidate Biomarker For Neurological Disease

\*PAR-NS-18-549, \*PAR-18-550

Rigorous validation of biomarker measurement performance characteristics (precision, accuracy, sensitivity, etc.)

### Clinical Validation of a Candidate Biomarker For Neurological Disease

\*PAR-NS-18-548, \*\*PAR-NS-18-664

Rigorous, fit for purpose clinical validation of a candidate biomarker for use in clinical trials and/or clinical practice (sensitivity, specificity, prevalence, etc)

*Cooperative Agreement Grant Mechanisms  
U01 (Academic) and U44 (SBIR)*

## ❖ Workshop: “Best Practices in Neuroscience Biomarker Discovery Planned for Early 2019

## ❖ Centralized NINDS “one-stop” Resource Web Page Tissue/data repositories, funding, information

*\*Application Due Date: July 18, 2018*

*\*\*Application Due Date: July 18, 2018*



# Questions?

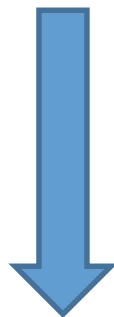
**Thank you for your interest!**

<https://www.ninds.nih.gov/Current-Research/Research-Funded-NINDS/Translational-Research/Funding-Programs-Researchers/IGNITE>

# The R61/R33 Grant Mechanism



R61: Assay/Model Development  
and Preparation for R33 ( $\leq 2$  Years  
for R61;  $\leq 3$  Years for the Project)



**Go/No-Go Milestones Each Year  
Does This Warrant Further Investment?**

R33: The Main Event.  
( $\leq 2$  Years R33;  $\leq 3$  Years for the Project)

**Extremely Clear, Quantitative and Definitive Milestones are *Essential*.  
Milestones Evaluated Each Year with Only 1 Go/No-Go Point  
Transition to R33 via Administrative Review**

# Definitions: PAR-18-XXX

- Pharmacodynamic (PD) Marker
  - Component of the molecular pathway mediating the biological effects of therapeutic target modulation (direct or indirect)
  - Component of disease etiology that is involved in drug target modulation
- Internal Validation
  - Precision, reliability, analytical sensitivity, accuracy and dynamic range of endpoints utilized in the model system of PD marker measurements
- External Validation
  - Similarity between model or model system and clinical manifestation of the disease (“face” validity)
  - Similarity between model or model system and physiological basis of the disorder (“construct” validity)
  - Similarity between the effect of a validated therapeutic intervention in the model or model system and in the clinical disease population (“predictive” validity)



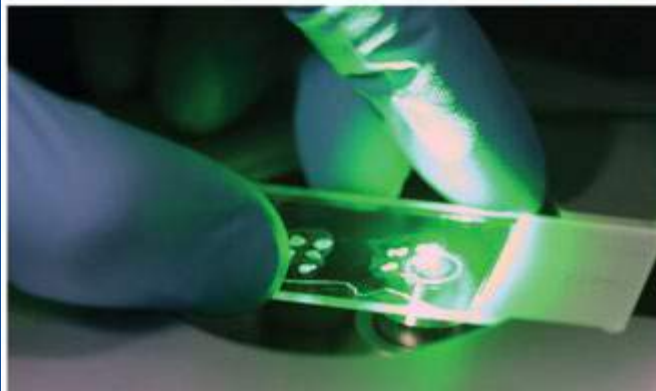
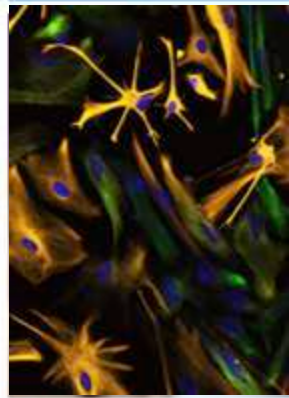


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# NINDS CREATE Bio Program

April 12, 2018

**Chris Boshoff, PhD**  
NIH/NINDS  
[chris.boshoff@nih.gov](mailto:chris.boshoff@nih.gov)



# Cooperative Research to Enable and Advance Translational Enterprises Biotechnology Products and Biologics (CREATE Bio)

## Funding Translation Promising Therapeutic Biologics

**Modalities: Peptides, Proteins, Oligonucleotides, Gene and Cell Therapies**

### Purpose

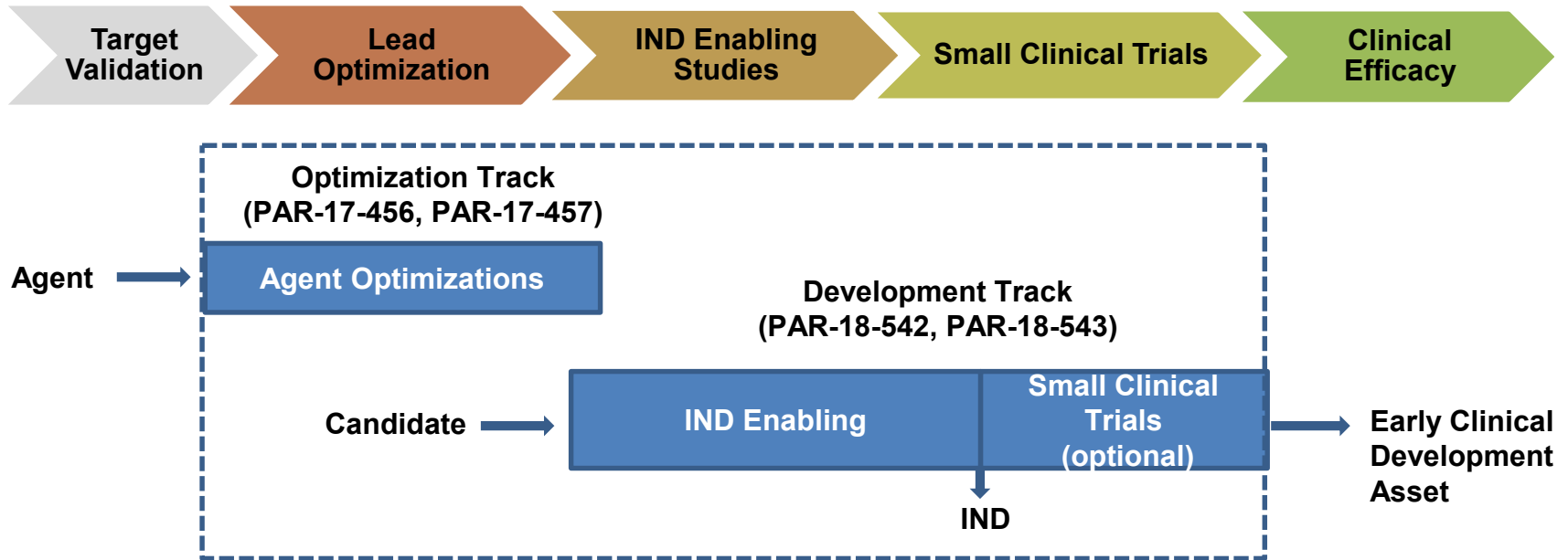
- Optimization: Optimization of therapeutic leads
- Development: IND-enabling studies/Early phase clinical trials

### End Goals

- Optimization: Characterize and select a lead candidate
- Development: Submit an IND application and/or conduct Phase I Trials



# CREATE Bio Program



- Cooperative agreement mechanism
- Technical assistance:
  - Consultants: Statistics, Regulatory, CMC

**Optimization Track Next Application Date: July 18, 2018**

**Development Track Next Application Date: July 18, 2018**

# Expectations of Applications to CREATE Bio Programs

- Comprehensive background and data package
  - Sufficient information for evaluation
  - Confidential (only abstract is publicly available if funded)
- A clear target product profile (TPP) and plans for clinical proof-of-concept study
- Milestones
- Multidisciplinary team
- Emphasis on rigorous study design and reporting
- Intellectual property plans

# NINDS U01 Gene Therapy Project Moves into Phase-I Clinical Trial by AveXis for SMA Type 2



The NEW ENGLAND  
JOURNAL of MEDICINE

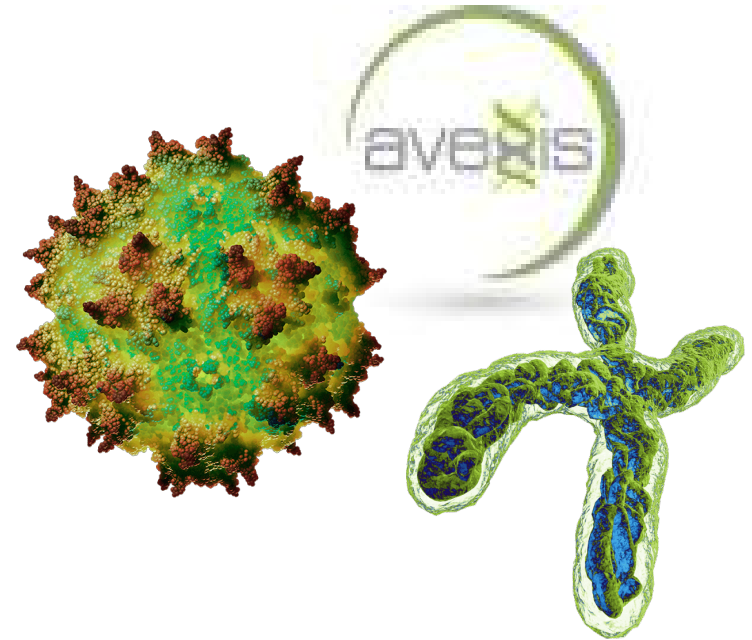
HOME ARTICLES & MULTIMEDIA ~ ISSUES ~ SPECIALTIES & TOPICS ~ FOR AUTHORS ~ CME ~

## ORIGINAL ARTICLE

### Single-Dose Gene-Replacement Therapy for Spinal Muscular Atrophy

Jerry R. Mendell, M.D., Samiah Al-Zaidy, M.D., Richard Shell, M.D., W. Dave Arnold, M.D., Louise R. Rodino-Klapac, Ph.D., Thomas W. Prior, Ph.D., Linda Lowes, P.T., Ph.D., Lindsay Alfano, D.P.T., Katherine Berry, P.T., Kathleen Church, M.S.W., John T. Kissel, M.D., Sukumar Nagendran, M.D., James L'Italien, Ph.D., Douglas M. Sproule, M.D., Courtney Wells, B.S., Jessica A. Cardenas, Ph.D., Marjet D. Heitzer, Ph.D., Allan Kasper, Ph.D., Sarah Corcoran, B.S., Lyndsey Braun, B.S., Shibi Likhite, Ph.D., Carlos Miranda, Ph.D., Kathrin Meyer, Ph.D., K.D. Foust, Ph.D., Arthur H.M. Burghes, Ph.D., and Brian K. Kasper, Ph.D.

N Engl J Med 2017; 377:1713-1722 | November 2, 2017 | DOI: 10.1056/NEJMoa1706198



➤ AveXis reports SMA Type 1 Patients who received a single IV dose of AVXS-101 are alive and event-free at 20 months of age

➤ AveXis Announces Plan to Initiate Phase 1 Trial in SMA Type 2 Utilizing Intrathecal Delivery of AVXS-101



# CREATE Bio Website

<https://www.ninds.nih.gov/Current-Research/Research-Funded-NINDS/Translational-Research/CREATE-BIO>

## CREATE BIO

[Home](#) » [Current Research](#) » [Research Funded by NINDS](#) » [Translational Research](#)

### RESEARCH FUNDED BY NINDS

[Basic Neuroscience](#)

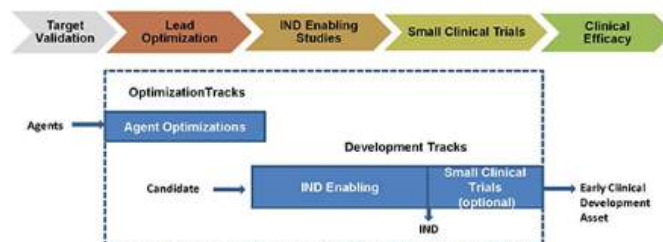
[Clinical Research](#)

[Translational Research](#)



Cooperative Research to Enable and Advance Translational Enterprises for Biologics

### CREATE Bio Program Overview



The NINDS Cooperative Research to Enable and Advance Translational Enterprises for Biotechnology Products and Biologics (CREATE Bio) program is dedicated to biotechnology product- and biologics-based therapies, which broadly include modalities such as peptides, proteins, oligonucleotides, gene therapies, cell therapies, and novel emerging modalities. The program includes two tracks: the Optimization Track supports optimization in order to obtain a candidate appropriate for entering the Development Track, and the Development Track supports IND-enabling studies for the candidate, as well as early-phase clinical trials.

For a quick look to determine the differences between the CREATE Bio FOA tracks such as grant mechanism, FOA number, purpose, and entry criteria

[Compare the CREATE Bio Optimization and Development Tracks](#)

The CREATE Bio program has contracts for consultants to advise NIH staff and offer investigators assistance on an ad hoc basis.

[CREATE Bio Contract Resources/Consultants](#)

### Contact

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[Linda McGavern, Ph.D.](#)  
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[Christina Vert, M.S.](#)  
Health Program Specialist  
[vertc@ninds.nih.gov](mailto:vertc@ninds.nih.gov)

### Related Funding Opportunities

[CREATE BIO Opportunities](#)

[Translational Research Opportunities](#)

### Related Resources

[Application Support Library](#)

[NIH Stem Cell Information](#)

[FDA CBER guidance documents](#)

[FDA CDER guidance documents](#)

[FDA Clinical guidance documents](#)





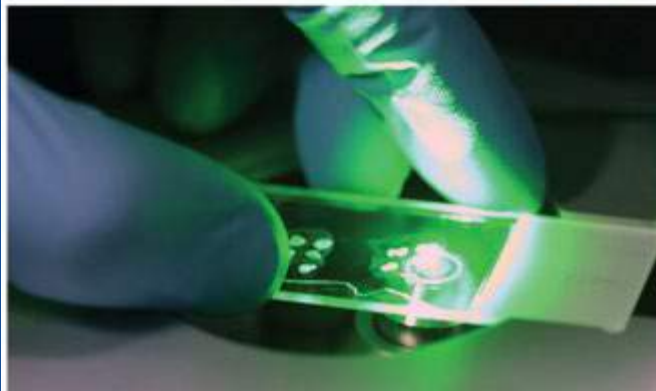
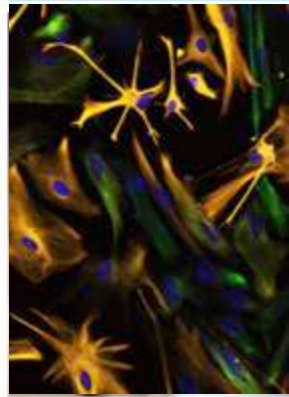
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# NIH Blueprint Neurotherapeutics Network (BPN)

*ICARE*

April 12, 2018

**Charles Cywin, PhD**  
Program Director, BPN  
NIH/NINDS  
[Charles.Cywin@nih.gov](mailto:Charles.Cywin@nih.gov)



# BPN Vision: Combine the Strengths of NIH and Industry Resources

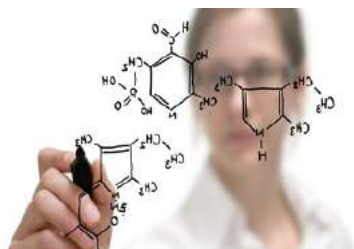
## NIH investigator-initiated ideas

- Small molecule starting point
- Strong disease assays and models
- Novel drug targets



## Industry expertise

- Advisors with extensive pharma experience
- Industry-standard contract services



# Small Molecule Drug Discovery and Development for Disorders of the Nervous System

## Program Goals:

- To de-risk potential therapeutics to the point that industry will invest in them, allowing potential new drugs to reach patients efficiently.
- To identify the best ideas for translation in the NIH research community through this funding opportunity and associated infrastructure.
- To provide grant (PAR) funding and necessary resources (contracts, consultants, etc.) that are typically lacking in our research community.
- Preserve PI/Institution's Intellectual Property to facilitate licensing

# Identify the best ideas and de-risk the projects to promote investment

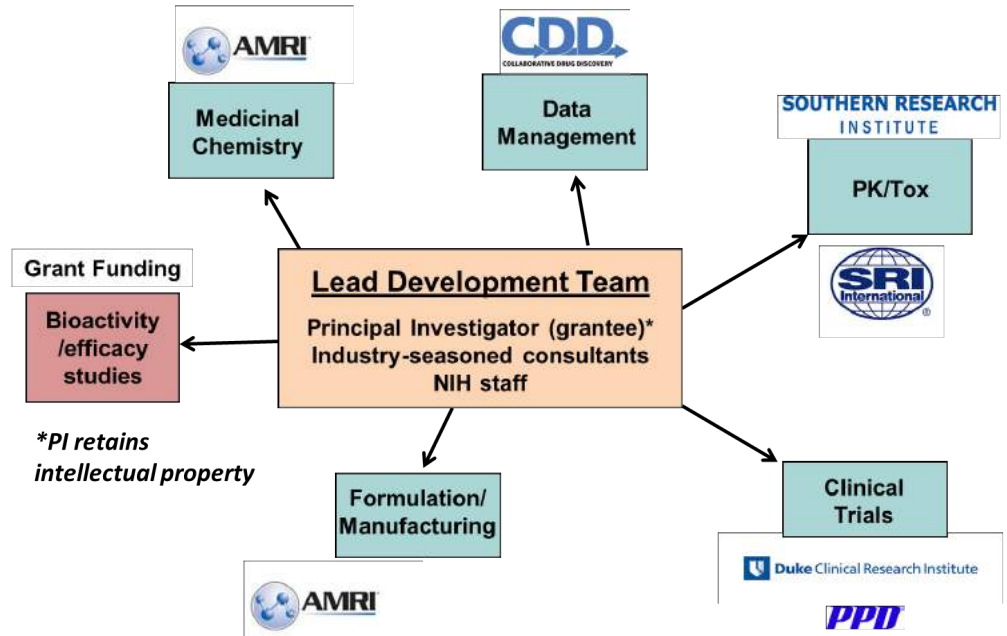
## Blueprint Neurotherapeutics Network

Offers Infrastructure, Expertise, and Grant Funding



IDEA

designed by freepik.com



\* Contract resources are tailor-made to support PI teams



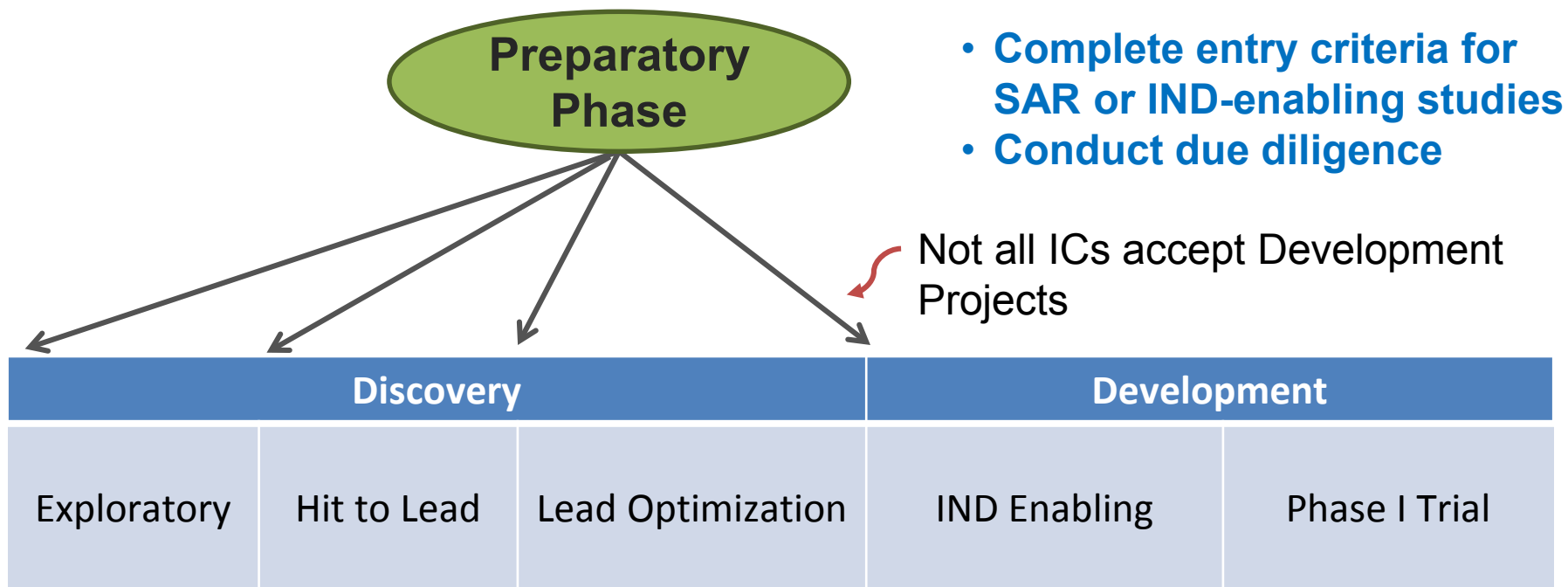
BPN14770 capsules for Phase I



Tetra Discovery Partners  
Announces Positive Results from  
Phase 1 Studies of Cognition Drug  
Candidate, BPN14770

# Projects Can Enter at Any Preclinical Stage

## *All Projects Begin with Preparatory Phase*



### **General (UG3/UH3) PAR-18-546**

UG3: Up to \$300K direct costs x 1 yr

UH3: Up to \$1.5M/yr direct costs x 4 yrs

### **SBIR (U44-I/II) PAR-18-541**

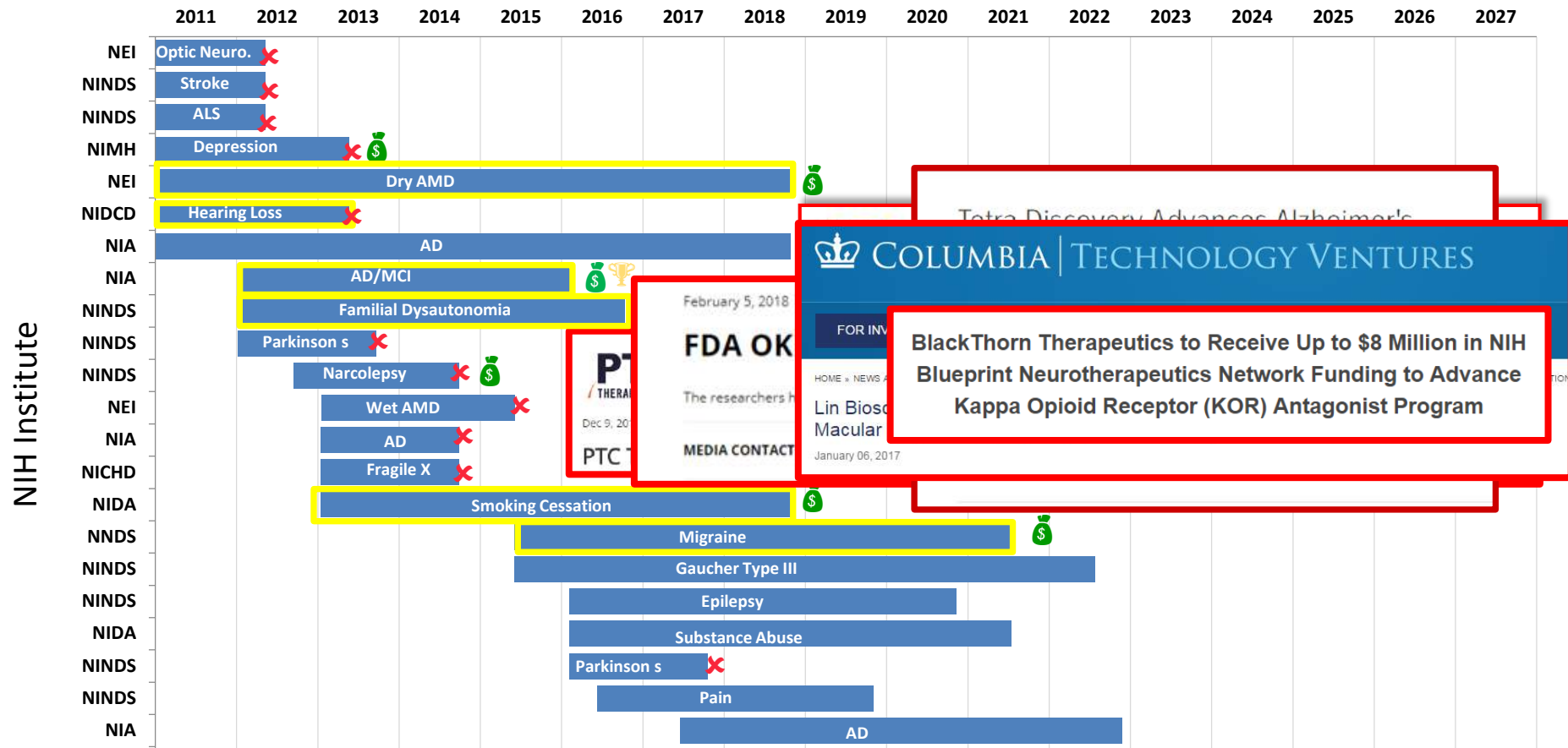
Phase I: Up to \$500K/yr\* (\$700K total across ≤2 yrs)

Phase II: Up to \$1.5M/yr (\$3M total across ≤3 yrs)

**Next Application Date: August 9, 2018**

\*If no vertebrate animal work \$225K/yr

# BPN Success



🏆 = Graduated    💰 = Licensing and outside investment deal announced    ✗ = Exited



# Investigator's Reflection on the BPN program



Professor of Neurology,  
Harvard Medical School  
Department of Neurology,  
Molecular Neurogenetics Unit  
Center for Human Genetic Research  
Massachusetts General Hospital

<https://youtu.be/NPFpI5HoGrA>



Professor and Chair Pharmacology and  
Systems Therapeutics  
Experimental Therapeutics Institute  
Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai,  
Eolas Therapeutics

<https://youtu.be/MTd6BhdCKIE>

*Produced by Josie Anderson  
Audio Visual Production Specialist  
National Institute on Drug Abuse  
National Institutes of Health*



# Thank You

**BPN info:**

<https://neuroscienceblueprint.nih.gov/bpdrugs>

**Please contact me to discuss your project's fit to BPN:**

[charles.cywin@nih.gov](mailto:charles.cywin@nih.gov)

**Next Receipt Date is August 9<sup>th</sup>.**

**(PAR-18-546, PAR18-541(SBIR))**



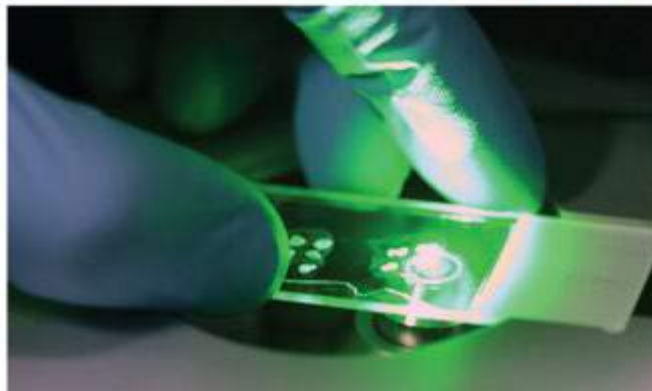
National Institute of  
Neurological Disorders  
and Stroke

# Devices

*ICARE*

April 12, 2018

**Kari R Ashmont, PhD**  
Program Specialist  
NIH/NINDS  
[kari.ashmont@nih.gov](mailto:kari.ashmont@nih.gov)



# Device Development Pipeline



NINDS Exploratory Research  
(R21) (PA 18 358)

NSF NIH Smart and Connected  
Health (NSF 18 541)

Bioengineering Research Grants  
(R01) (PAR 18 206)

BRAIN New Concepts  
(R21) (RFA EY 18 001)

Bioengineering Research Partnerships  
(U01) (PAR 18 208)

BRAIN New Technologies  
(R01) (RFA NS 18 020)

Translational Neural Devices  
(UG3 / UH3 / U44) (RFA NS 18 011 / RFA NS 18 012)

BRAIN Device Optimization  
(U01) (RFA NS 18 019)

BRAIN Next Generation Devices  
(UG3 / UH3 / U44) (RFA NS 18 021 / RFA NS 18 022)

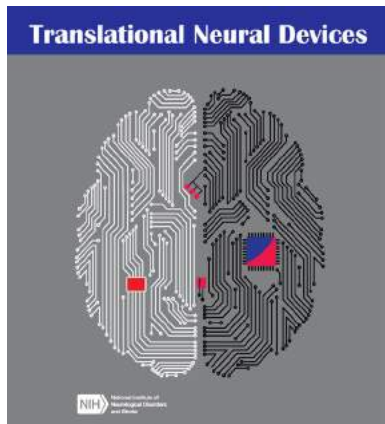
BRAIN Next Gen Devices  
(UH3) (RFA NS 18 023)

**GOAL:**  
*Support development, optimization, and translational activities and small clinical studies involving therapeutic and diagnostic devices for disorders that affect the nervous or neuromuscular systems*

Exploratory CTs  
(U01 / R42 / R44)  
(PAR 18 420 / PAR 15 277 / PAR 15 278)

Clinical Trial Networks:  
NeuroNext (R01/U01)  
(PAR 18 528 / PAR 18 268)  
StrokeNET (R01/U01)  
(PAR 18 561 / PAR 18 563)

# Translational Opportunities



## Legacy Programs

- NINDS Cooperative Program in Translational Research (2002-2014)
- Advanced Neural Prosthetics Program (2009-2015)
- CREATE Devices (2014-2017)

## General Information

- BRAIN: Invasive, CNS required, UH3, Public Private Partnership Program
- SBIR Fast-Track versions available
- Clinical Trials Required
- Delayed onset NOT allowed
- Budget Guidelines (no hard cap)
  - \$1M/year (UG3/SBIR Phase I)
  - \$1.5M/year (UH3/SBIR Phase II)
- Phased Mechanism
- Cooperative Agreements

## NEXT DUE DATES

Translational Neural Devices: June 21, 2018

BRAIN: June 23, 2018

# Phased Mechanisms

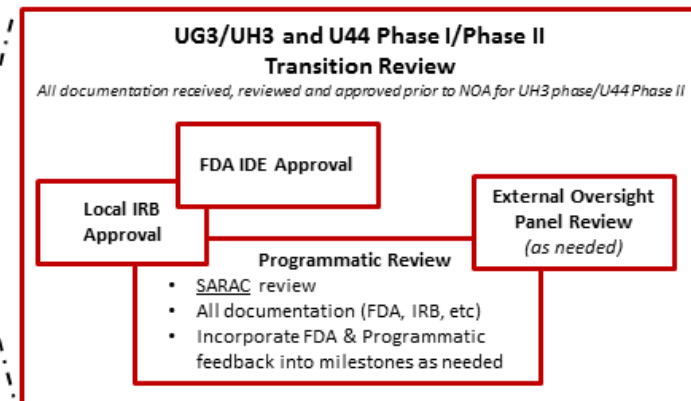
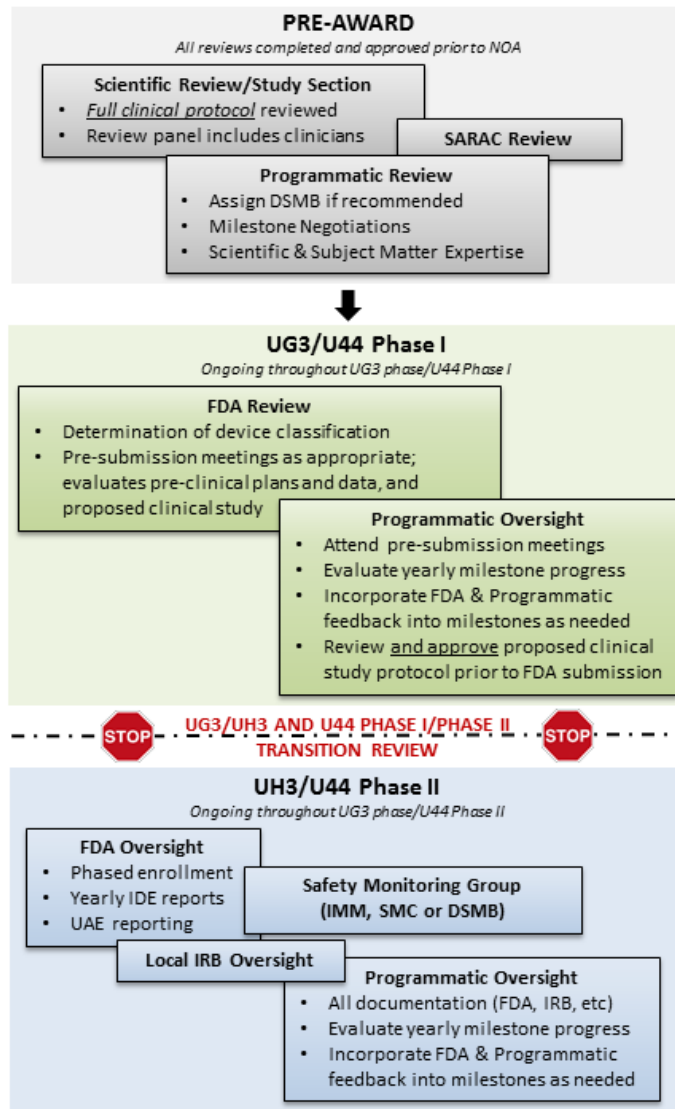
## UH2/UG3/SBIR Phase I

- IDE enabling pre-clinical
- Good Laboratory Practices (GLP)
- Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP)
- Software testing and validation
- Biocompatibility
- Quality Systems
- Regulatory activities
- Acute human studies

## UH3/SBIR Phase II

- Clinical study
- Marketing application
- Clinical experience to inform final device design

# Cooperative Agreement Oversight



# Current Portfolio

- 23 Actively Managed Awards

Program	Mechanism				Approx. Yearly Costs
	U01	UG3/UH2	U44	UH3	
Bioengineering Research Partnership	1	-	-	-	\$1.2M
Advanced Neural Prosthetics Program	3	-	-	-	\$2.7M
Translational Neural Devices (CREATE)	-	1	2	-	\$3.6M
BRAIN	-	4	-	12	\$21.2M

**Yearly Total: ~ \$29 Million!**

**Indications:** OCD (2), Depression (2), Essential Tremor, Locked-in Syndrome, TBI, PD (4), Visual Prosthesis (2), SCI / Phantom Pain, Stroke (3), SCI (4), **Epilepsy (3)**



# Neurophysiological Brain State Tracking & Modulation in Epilepsy

PI: Worrell (UH2 NS095495)

**Goal:** Develop Next Generation Epilepsy Therapeutics Platform based on Medtronic Summit

## RC+S telemetry & stimulation in dogs

- Cortex, hippocampus, thalamus
- 3% packet loss (97% data transmitted & analyzable)

## Automated Seizure Detection & Catalogs

- Legacy data: human & dog (98% Sens. & FP 0.06/hr)
- Prospective detection in implanted dogs ongoing

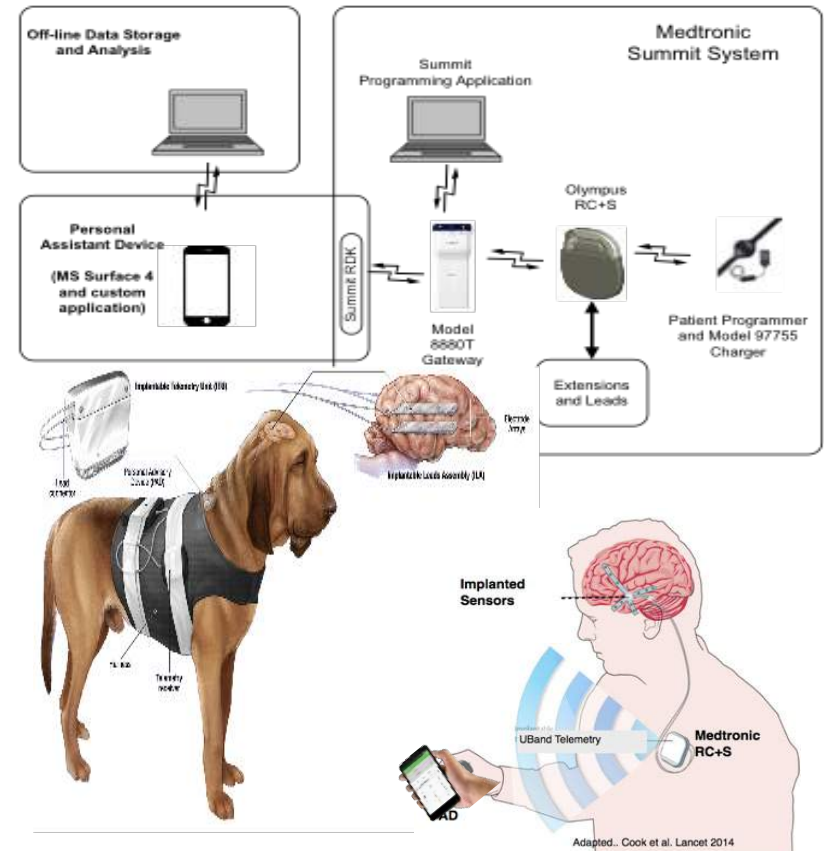
## Responsive Stimulation in Canine Epilepsy

- Evoked related potentials
- Brain state related stimulation

## Seizure Forecasting Dog & Human Epilepsy

- Legacy data: human & dog (82% Sensitivity & 75% Specificity)

## Pilot Trail in Human Focal Epilepsy (UH3)



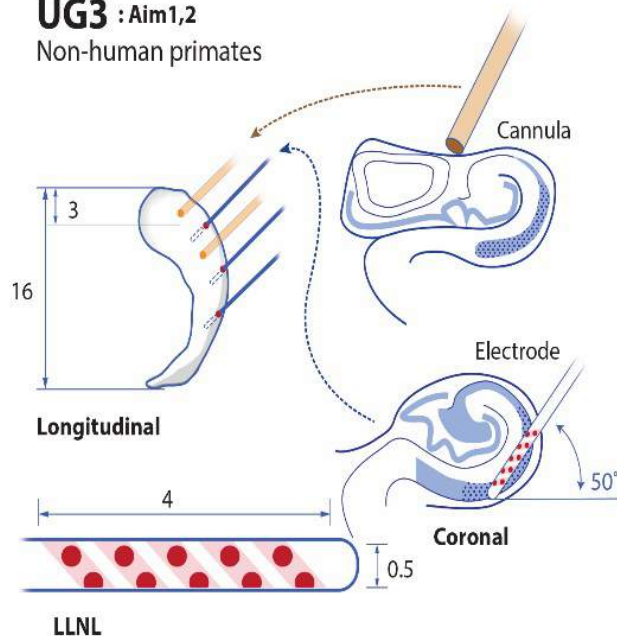
# Asynchronous Distributed Multielectrode Neuromodulation for Epilepsy

PI: Gross, et al (UG3 NS100559)

**Goal:** To improve the outcome of neuromodulation therapy for drug-resistant epilepsy patients using *distributed bidirectional recording and stimulation*.

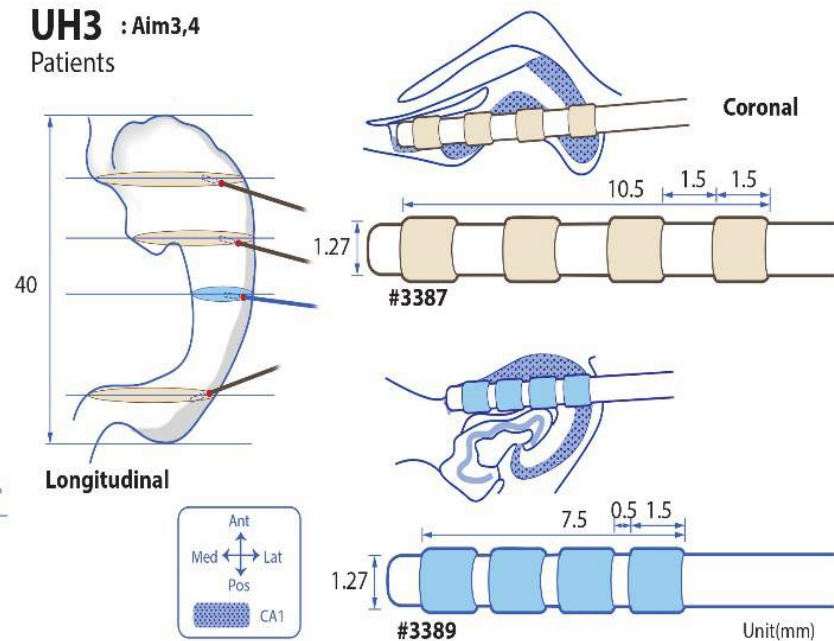
**UG3 : Aim1,2**

Non-human primates



**UH3 : Aim3,4**

Patients



# Development of an Implantable TNS System

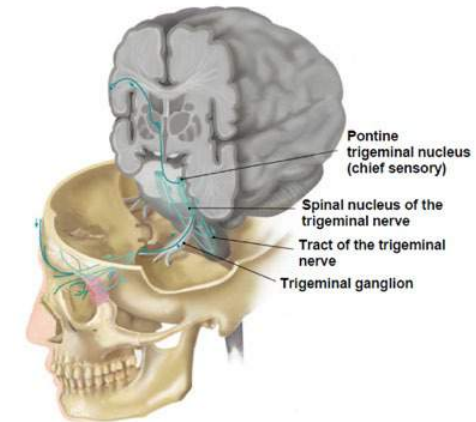
PI: Kealey/Cook (U44 NS081840)

**Goal:** To develop an implantable subcutaneous Trigeminal Nerve Stimulation System (sTNSTM) for the treatment of DRE.



## TNS- A New DRE Treatment Paradigm

- Patients with DRE screen for treatment efficacy with non-invasive external TNS (eTNS) prior to implant of minimally-invasive subcutaneous TNS (sTNS)
- Avoids complications and costs of unnecessary procedures



### Non-Invasive eTNS



DRE patients can  
screen prior to implant

### Minimally-Invasive sTNS



## TNS Product Development Status

- eTNS screening device completed and used for multiple clinical trials
- prototype sTNS system now complete and undergoing benchtop testing
- sTNS system uses thinnest known neurostimulation lead (<0.4mm thick)
- GLP animal tests planned for 2018/2019
- First-in-human implants 2019/2020

# Questions?

## Thank you!

**Kari R Ashmont, PhD**  
kari.ashmont@nih.gov

**Nick Langhals, PhD**  
nick.langhals@nih.gov

**Stephanie Fertig, MBA**  
fertigs@ninds.nih.gov

**Matthew Raymond, PhD**  
matthew.raymond@nih.gov

**Doe Kumsa, PhD**  
doe.kumsa@nih.gov



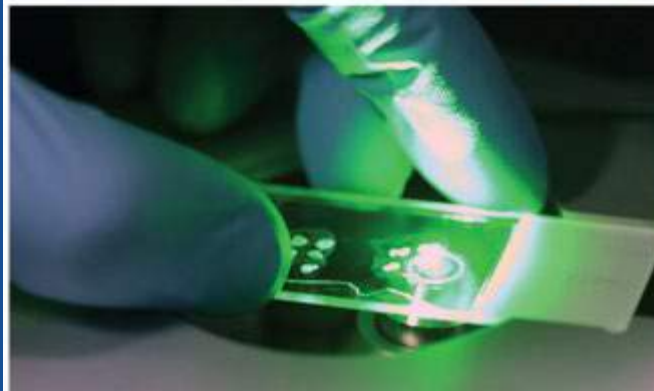
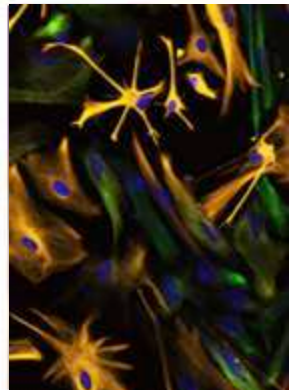
National Institute of  
Neurological Disorders  
and Stroke

# Small Business Programs (SBIR/STTR)

April 2018

**Stephanie Fertig, MBA**

Director, NINDS Small Business Programs  
Division of Translational Research, NINDS  
[fertigs@ninds.nih.gov](mailto:fertigs@ninds.nih.gov)



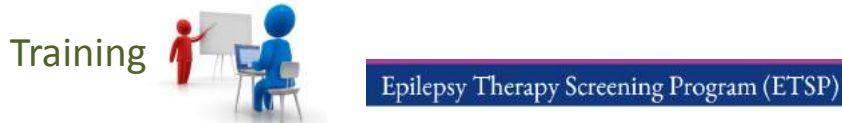


# Investing Across the Translational Spectrum

## Grants



## Resources



## Contracts

ADME/Tox. Chemistry Manufacturing Clinical



## Preclinical and Early Clinical Trials

## Grants

Dissemination and  
Implementation  
Research in Health (R01)



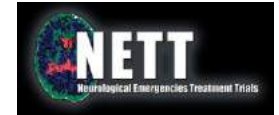
NeuroNEXT Clinical Trial  
(U01)



StrokeNet Clinical trials  
& Biomarkers (X01)



Neurological Emergencies  
Treatment Trials (NETT)



## Clinical Trials and Infrastructure Resource

# NIH Small Business Programs



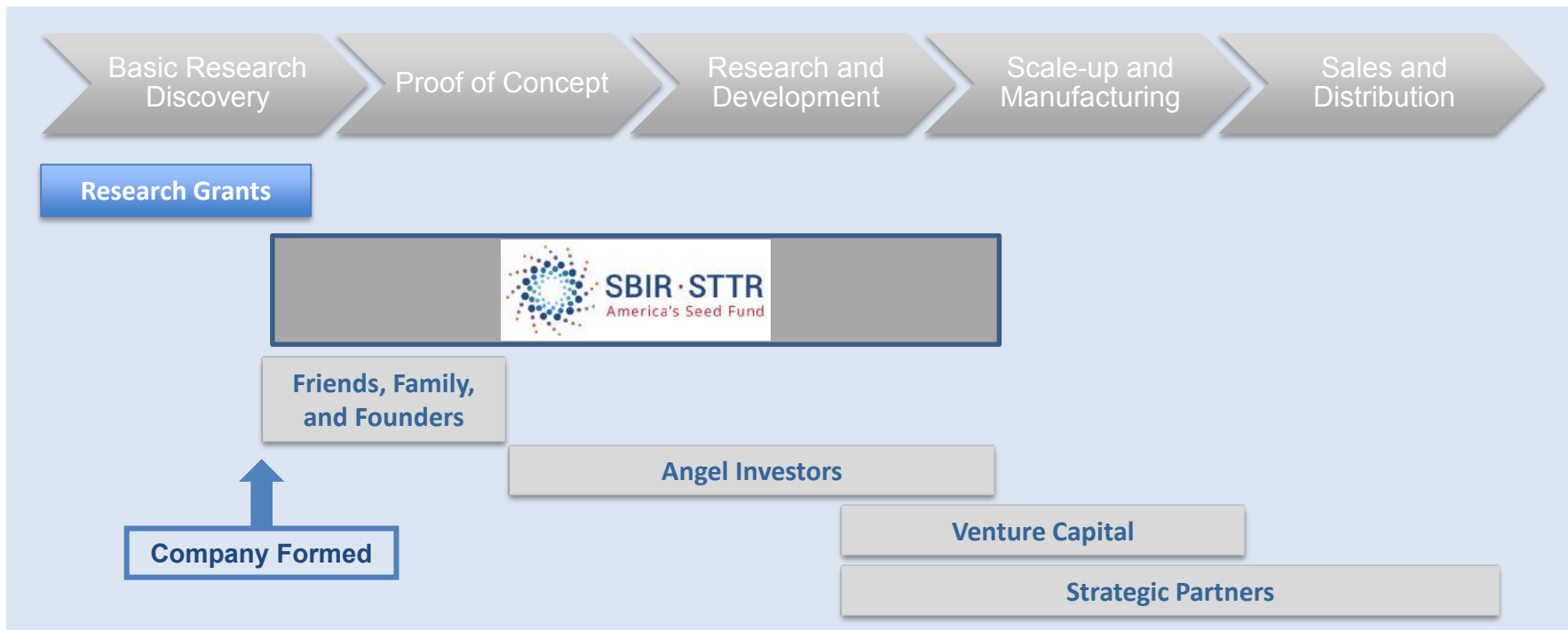
Small Business Innovation Research  
Small Business Technology Transfer

- Congressionally mandated set-aside (3.65%)
  - FY 2017: \$980M NIH and \$55M NINDS
- For R&D with potential for commercialization
- Broad scope:
  - Therapeutics, diagnostics, tools for research
  - Bench research, translational research, early stage clinical trials
- A majority of our applications are investigator-initiated and come in through the omnibus solicitations



# Benefits

- One of the largest funding sources of **early stage life sciences in the US**
- Not a loan, non-dilutive **capital**
- IP rights **are** normally retained by the small business
- Awardees can **leverage to attract other funding and**

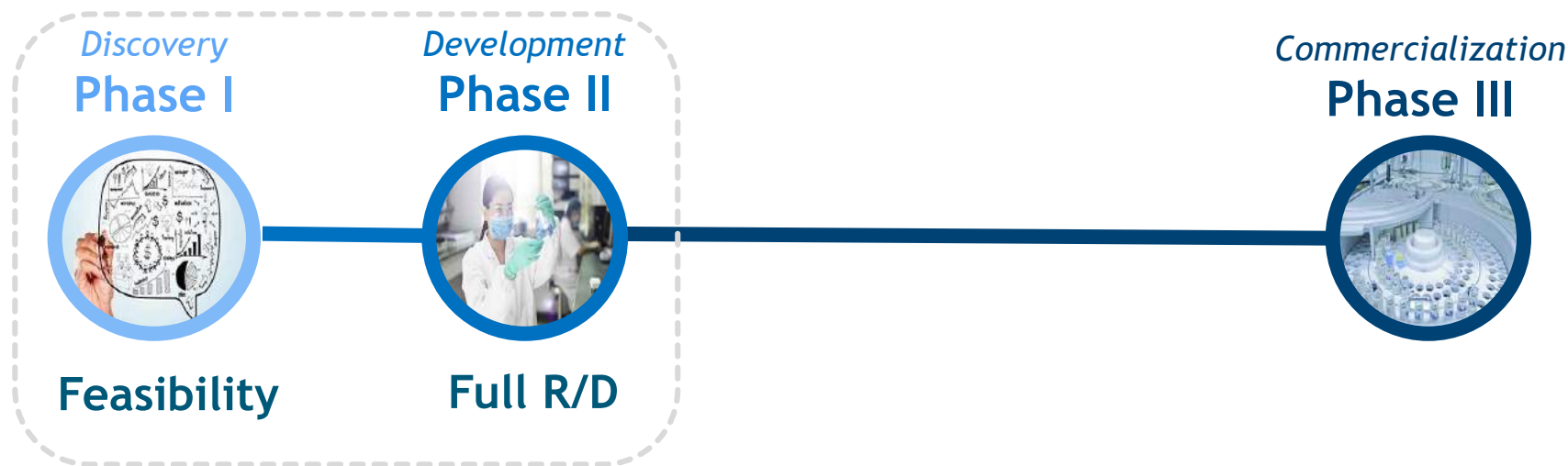


# SBIR and STTR Critical Differences

	<b>SBIR</b> (Small Business Innovation Research)	<b>STTR</b> (Small Business Technology Transfer)
<b>Set-Aside</b>	3.2%	0.45%
<b>Partnering Requirement</b>	Permits partnering	Requires a non-profit research institution partner (e.g. university)
<b>Work Requirement</b>	Guidelines: May outsource 33% (Phase I) 50% (Phase II)	Minimum Work Requirements: 40% small business 30% research institution partner
<b>Principal Investigator</b>	Primary employment (>50%) must be with the small business	PI may be employed by either the research institution partner or small business

**Award is always made to the small business**

# Phases of SBIR/STTR



## ***Phase I:***

Guidelines: \$150K/6 months  
Hard Cap\*: \$225K/1-2 years  
NINDS Waiver Guidelines:  
\$700K (not more than  
\$500K/yr)

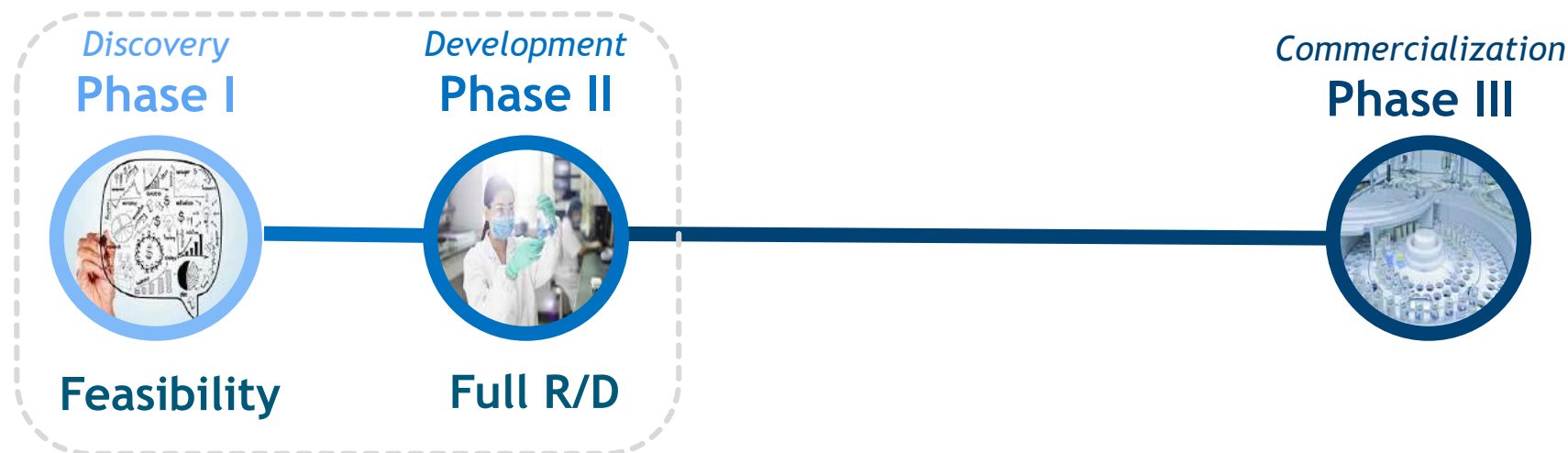


## ***Phase II:***

Guidelines: \$1M/1 year  
Hard Cap\*: \$1.5M/1-3 years  
NINDS Waiver Guidelines:  
\$3M (not more than \$1.5M/yr)

**\*NIH has a wavier from the Small Business Administration to exceed these Hard Caps for specific topics**  
**SBIR/STTR budgets are in total cost (direct + indirect + fee)**

# Phases of SBIR/STTR: Fast-Track



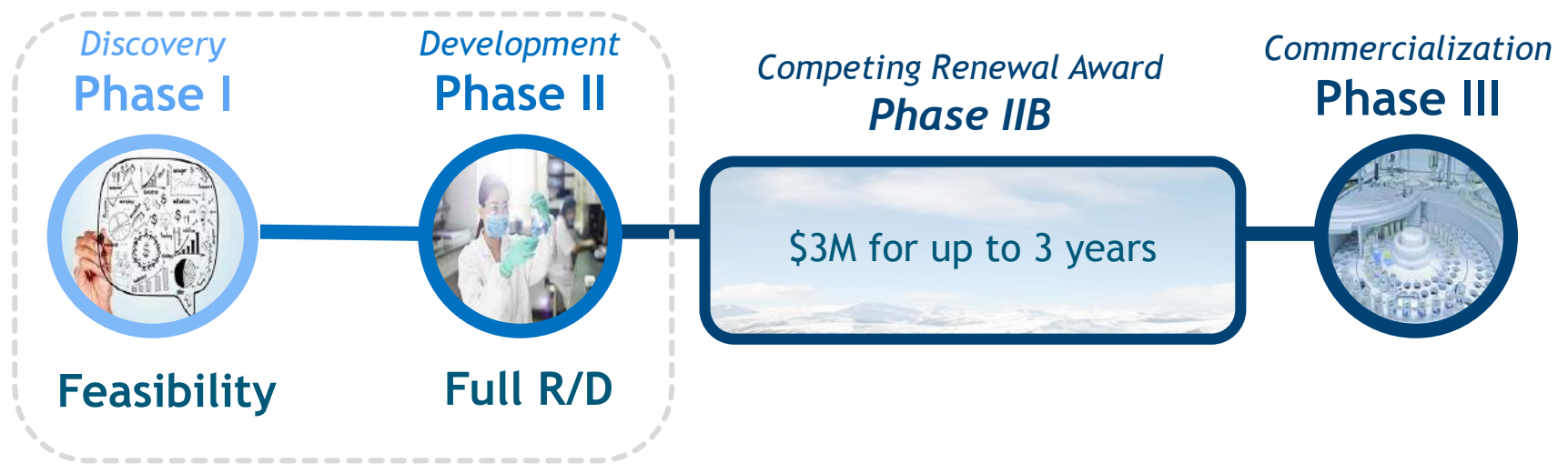
## *Fast-Track*

### *Phase I → Phase II*

- Simultaneous submission and review of Phase I and II
- Phase I is awarded
- Milestones/aims of Phase I are assessed by program staff BEFORE Phase II is awarded

*\*Across NIH all new application types (Phase I, Fast-Track) have roughly the same success rate*

# Phases of SBIR/STTR



- SBIR/STTR Phase II awardees
  - Specific Phase IIB program announcements
  - Awards up to **\$1M/year for up to 3 years**
  - Some “strongly encourage” matching funding
- *Contact NIH Program Staff to discuss!*

# Commercialization Support

## *Pre-SBIR/STTR:*

### **Entrepreneurial Assistance/ Training**

NIH I-Corps™ (pilot) and C3i Programs

- Open to current awardees of participating NIH Institutes/Centers
- Administrative Supplements: [PA-18-702](#) and [PA-18-517](#)

### **NIH Applicant Assistance Program (AAP)**

- PILOT: [NOT-CA-18-031](#);  
[www.dawnbreaker.com/aap](http://www.dawnbreaker.com/aap)
- Companies who have not previously won an SBIR/STTR award from NIH
- NCI, NINDS or NHLBI mission

- **Provide free services:** application preparation, needs assessment, etc.

## *Phase I:*

### **Market Analysis:**

Niche Assessment Program (NAP)

### **Entrepreneurial Assistance/ Training**

NIH I-Corps™ and C3i Programs

## *Phase II/IIB:*

### **Technical Assistance/Training:**

Commercialization Accelerator Program (CAP)

<https://www.ninds.nih.gov/Funding/Small-Business-Grants>

# NIH Small Business Programs Website



The screenshot shows the NIH Small Business Programs Website. The header includes the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services and National Institutes of Health logos, along with navigation links: OER HOME, ABOUT GRANTS, FUNDING, FORMS & DEADLINES, GRANTS POLICY, ERA, NEWS & EVENTS, and ABOUT OER. The main content area features a sidebar with links to SBIR/STTR HOME, ABOUT, FUNDING, APPLY, REVIEW, POLICY, TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, RESOURCES, STATISTICS AND SUCCESS, and ENGAGE AND CONNECT. A yellow button labeled "New to SBIR/STTR" is also present. The main content area displays the NIH logo, the text "Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR)", and the SBIR/STTR logo with the tagline "America's Seed Fund". A section titled "Electronic Submission Process" explains that the process is multi-step and can take six to eight weeks. A "Resources" section lists various links: Application Instructions, Annotated Form Set, Sample SBIR Applications from NIAID, NIH SBIR/STTR Just-in-Time (JIT) Procedures, Agency and State Contacts, Life Science Contacts by State, NIH SBIR/STTR Fact Sheet, Events, Webinars, Financial Questionnaire, and FAQs. The footer includes a navigation bar with icons for Technical Assistance Programs, Funding, Clinical Trials, Electronic Submission Process, Success Stories, and Contact Us. A section titled "What are SBIR and STTR Programs?" provides a brief overview of the programs. A "HHS SBIR/STTR COMPONENT PROGRAM LINKS" dropdown menu is also visible. A "NEWS" section mentions that NIH SBIR/STTR will host Informational Webinars covering the FY18 Omnibus Release, Clinical Trials, and Electronic.

U.S. Department of Health & Human Services National Institutes of Health

OER HOME ABOUT GRANTS FUNDING FORMS & DEADLINES GRANTS POLICY ERA NEWS & EVENTS ABOUT OER

NIH Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR)

SBIR/STTR HOME ABOUT FUNDING APPLY REVIEW POLICY TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE RESOURCES STATISTICS AND SUCCESS ENGAGE AND CONNECT

New to SBIR/STTR

SBIR/STTR America's Seed Fund

### Electronic Submission Process

The electronic application submission process for HHS SBIR and STTR grants is multi-step, and can take six to eight weeks to complete the five registrations required for electronic submission.

### Resources

- Application Instructions
- Annotated Form Set
- Sample SBIR Applications from NIAID
- NIH SBIR/STTR Just-in-Time (JIT) Procedures
- Agency and State Contacts
- Life Science Contacts by State
- NIH SBIR/STTR Fact Sheet
- Events
- Webinars
- Financial Questionnaire
- FAQs

Technical Assistance Programs Funding Clinical Trials Electronic Submission Process Success Stories Contact Us

### What are SBIR and STTR Programs?

The Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) and Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) programs, also known as America's Seed Fund, are one of the largest sources of early-stage capital for technology commercialization in the United States. These programs allow US-owned and operated small businesses to engage in federal research and development that has a strong potential for commercialization.

HHS SBIR/STTR COMPONENT PROGRAM LINKS

### NEWS

NIH SBIR/STTR will host Informational Webinars covering the FY18 Omnibus Release, Clinical Trials, and Electronic

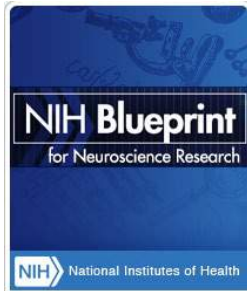


## NOT-NS-18-002

- NINDS gives priority to **meritorious research proposals with the greatest potential to advance the NINDS mission**
  - We are especially interested in:
    - Novel and innovative technologies that are new to the SBIR or STTR programs.
    - Technologies coming to the SBIR or STTR programs for their first indication or market opportunity.
    - Companies and applicants that are new to the SBIR and STTR programs.
    - NINDS Cooperative Agreement (U44)  
Translational Programs

<https://www.ninds.nih.gov/Funding/Small-Business-Grants>

# NINDS Cooperative Translational Programs



## Small Molecules ([PAR-18-541](#)):

Charles Cywin, Ph.D.  
([charles.cywin@nih.gov](mailto:charles.cywin@nih.gov))

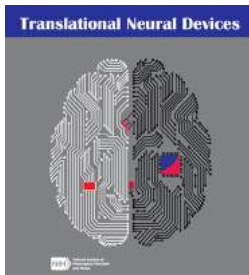
## Biologics ([PAR-17-457](#)/[PAR-18-543](#)):

Chris Boshoff, Ph.D.  
([chris.boshoff@nih.gov](mailto:chris.boshoff@nih.gov))



## Neural Devices ([RFA-NS-18-012](#)):

Nick Langhals, Ph.D.  
([nick.Langhals@nih.gov](mailto:nick.Langhals@nih.gov))




## Biomarkers ([PAR-18-549](#)/[PAR-18-548](#))

Mary Ann Pelleymounter, Ph.D.  
([mary.pelleymounter@nih.gov](mailto:mary.pelleymounter@nih.gov))

# NINDS Support for Clinical Studies

- Clinical Research (e.g. diagnostics) are accepted through the general solicitations (clinical trials not allowed)
- NINDS does NOT participate in the Clinical Trials SBIR/STTR omnibus solicitations
- Clinical Trials are accepted through specific program announcements (clinical trials optional or required)

<p>NINDS Exploratory Clinical Trials</p> <p>NINDS Renewal Awards of SBIR Phase II Grants (Phase IIB) Clinical Trials and Clinical Research</p>	<p><a href="#"><u>PAR-18-618</u></a> (SBIR) <a href="#"><u>PAR-18-617</u></a> (STTR)</p> <p><a href="#"><u>PAR-18-665</u></a> (Phase IIB)</p>	<p>Stephanie Fertig <a href="mailto:fertigs@ninds.nih.gov"><u>fertigs@ninds.nih.gov</u></a> <a href="#"><u>v</u></a></p>
 <p>Neurology Network of Excellence in Clinical Trials</p>	<p><a href="#"><u>PAR-18-628</u></a></p>	<p>Codrin Lungu <a href="mailto:lunguci@ninds.nih.gov"><u>lunguci@ninds.nih.g</u></a> <a href="#"><u>ov</u></a></p>

# Currently Active SBIR/STTR Epilepsy Grants

SBIR Phase II	R44NS100235	EPITEL, INC.	LEHMKUHLE, MARK J	EEG Patch
SBIR Fast track, Phase II	R44NS086229	XERIS PHARMACEUTICALS, INC.	PRESTRELSKI, STEVEN (c); CLOYD, JAMES C	Auto-Injectable Diazepam Formulation for Rapid Treatment of Uncontrolled Seizures
SBIR Phase I	R43NS105291	LIFESPLICE PHARMA, LLC	TALLENT, MELANIE K	Preclinical Testing of Splice Modulating Oligonucleotides Targeting SCN8A to Treat Dravet Syndrome
SBIR Phase I	R43NS093714	BMSEED, LLC	GRAUDEJUS, OLIVER	Development of a large area high resolution micro ECoG electrode array
Phase IIB	R44NS064647	OPTIMA NEUROSCIENCE, INC.	SHIAU, DENG-SHAN	High Performance Seizure Monitoring and Alert System
SBIR Fast track, Phase II	R44NS093889	ELECTRICAL GEODESICS, INC.	LUU, PHAN (c); PAPADEMETRIS, XENOPHON	Multimodal Image Analysis Software for Epilepsy
SBIR Phase II	R44NS083101	CORTICOMETRICS, LLC	SCHMANSKY, NICHOLAS JOHN (c); FISCHL, BRUCE	Computer-aided detection of focal cortical dysplasias
SBIR Phase I	R43NS102067	MICRO-LEADS, INC.	MCLAUGHLIN, BRYAN L	An Implantable and High-Density, Multiplexed Micro-ECoG System

# NINDS Small Business Successes



## Monarch™ eTMS system

- “External Trigeminal Nerve Stimulation for the Treatment of Epilepsy”
- Available as an adjunctive treatment of epilepsy in the EU, Canada and Australia
- eTMS is an investigational device in the US

Supporting the company to develop an implantable trigeminal nerve stimulation system for drug resistant

R41NS76014



# NINDS Small Business Successes



GET CONNECTED

Search...



The RNS® System -  
Designed to prevent  
seizures at their source

HEAR WHAT PATIENTS  
ARE SAYING



“These studies demonstrated that closed-loop responsive stimulation was feasible and provided preliminary evidence that responsive stimulation could reduce seizures.”

*Sun FT, Morrell MJ. Closed-loop Neurostimulation: The Clinical Experience. Neurotherapeutics (2014) 11: 553*

Epilepsy  
treatment just  
got a lot  
smarter with  
the RNS®  
System.

R44NS034630



# NIH Small Business Conference

## - Save the Date - 20th Annual HHS SBIR/STTR Conference



**October 30 - November 1, 2018**  
**Dallas, Texas**

---

Stay connected for updates!  
@NIHsbir | <https://sbir.nih.gov/>

# Eligibility Criteria

- Organized as for-profit US business
- Small: 500 or fewer employees, including affiliates
- Work must be done in the US (with few exceptions)
- Individual Ownership:
  - Greater than 50% US-owned by individuals and independently operated OR
  - Greater than 50% owned and controlled by other business concern/s that is/are greater than 50% owned and controlled by one or more individuals OR
  - Be a concern which is more than 50% owned by multiple venture capital operating companies, hedge funds, private equity firms, or any combination of these

**Determined at Time of Award**