



**Parkinson Study Group: Request for Research Proposals and for  
Datamining Projects or Planning Grants in Parkinson Disease and Related Disorders**

**Submission deadline: Monday, December 2, 2019**

*Background:*

The Parkinson Study Group (PSG) regularly reviews research project proposals to be conducted by PSG investigators (or by other investigators in collaboration with PSG investigators). The scope of new projects can be observational or interventional. Proposals that support the development of a future multi-center PSG study are encouraged.

Several different types of proposals are appropriate but all must be feasible within one year. These can include hypothesis-driven datamining that exclusively use PSG databases; initial planning for a larger-scale PSG study (multicenter clinical trial or research project); and collection of preliminary data for a potential larger PSG study (to be supported by an R01 or similar mechanism). Planning or collection of preliminary data proposals should include a clear connection to implementation and the working hypothesis for the subsequent study.

The PSG Scientific Review Committee (SRC) will review all proposals. The scope of proposals includes use of the PSG datasets for datamining projects, planning grants and proposals for the collection of pilot data in support of a future R01, as well as proposals for multicenter clinical trials or other multicenter studies. Further, the SRC will review NeuroNEXT U01 proposals for clinical studies that include PSG members. We encourage you to contact the chair of a working group (listed on PSG web site) most closely allied with your research topic. The entire funding for the proposed work need not be secured at the time of the application, but a plan for identifying support must be provided. Proposals can be reviewed under this cycle or expedited as needed.

The proposing investigators should review prior PSG studies to see if their research questions have been already addressed and then explain why their project should go forward if it is similar to another PSG study. A list of PSG research studies and publications is on the PSG website.

Note that, for projects requiring access to the DATATOP biospecimen repository, a separate proposal review and funding mechanism in collaboration with The Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research (MJFFPR) and the NINDS Parkinson's Disease Biomarkers Program (PDBP) is utilized; this consortium supports the identification and validation of novel biomarkers through use of DATATOP biospecimens. More information [here](#).

Protocols that may lead to future large-scale PSG studies and those that have received support and approval by the PSG working groups and/or Mentoring Committee may be prioritized if applications are judged to be equally meritorious.

**The PSG may be able to provide support (direct costs) to cover a 12-month datamining or planning projects. Funds are provided by a grant from the Parkinson's Foundation (PF) to the PSG. While the full sum is available for projects needing this level of support, the SRC is also interested in funding two or more projects, and so budgets with lower funding requirements are also welcomed.**

*To qualify for review:*

- The focus of the proposal must relate to a topic of current importance. Datamining proposals must use PSG databases only. The significance of the proposal in relationship to the PSG and the field of Parkinson's disease research should be stated.
- The proposal should also provide a clear description of the research plan.
- Applicants must have appropriate experience or identify an appropriate mentor (or mentors) with relevant research experience, and the qualifications of the mentor(s) to guide the specific research program should be stated.
- A funding source (industry partner, NIH, etc.) or a plan for seeking funding support (if needed) must be provided. Indirect costs are not allowed.

*Requirements for proposals:*

- An electronic copy of the proposal in Microsoft Word or pdf format must be received by the PSG on or before **Monday, December 2, 2019**. Applications should be sent by email to [roseanna.battista@chet.rochester.edu](mailto:roseanna.battista@chet.rochester.edu) with a cover note that includes the candidate's name and the title of study.
- The proposal should be formatted according to the guidelines indicated in the "[toolkit](#)" available through the "New Study Proposal Toolkit" link on the PSG website at [www.parkinson-study-group.org](http://www.parkinson-study-group.org).
- Clinical research proposals need not be pre-approved by institutional IRB, but should address concerns pertaining to risk, benefit and consent.
- Investigators with approved PSG projects will be asked to provide the following: 1) a 6-month progress report and a 1-year final report and 2) a list of publications that must acknowledge the PSG. The proposing investigator must include a plan to share their data (measurements) with the PSG so these data can be merged with the central PSG database, and to provide the PSG with a copy of the analysis.

Proposals received within the specified time frame will be reviewed by the PSG Scientific Review Committee. **Applicants will be notified of the results of these reviews on or about February 3, 2020.**