

NCI Request Regarding Immunotherapy/Immunoprevention Research Opportunities

ASCO is contacting its members who have indicated an interest in immunotherapy and immunoprevention to make you aware of an opportunity to provide feedback to the U.S. National Cancer Institute (NCI). **Please note that comments are due by Monday, August 24, 2009.**

The NCI has issued a Request for Information (RFI) to gather information from the scientific community regarding opportunities in cancer immunotherapy and immunoprevention that would benefit from accelerated development through focused funding and coordinated management. The official link for the RFI is: <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-CA-09-031.html>

This request is part of the NCI's new Process to Accelerate Translational Science as recommended by the Translational Research Working Group (TRWG). The information gathered in response to this RFI may be used in a variety of ways by the NCI, including: 1) to assist in the development of Requests for Proposals (RFP), Requests for Applications (RFA), Program Announcements (PA), Cooperative Research and Development Agreements (CRADA), Cooperative Agreements including a limited number of Special Translational Research Acceleration Projects (STRAPs); and, 2) to inform the development, formulation, production and implementation of products/devices/processes through internal NCI mechanisms.

Information is sought from members of the scientific community at large, academic and non-academic translational cancer researchers, clinical oncologists, and investigators from the pharmaceutical/biotechnology industry. The opportunities can relate to a range of specific therapeutic regimens and target populations. Any information that can be shared regarding the immunogenicity and therapeutic function of an antigen, the scientific validity and feasibility of the formulation for that antigen, and/or the scientific validity and feasibility of combinations with immune modifier agents is requested. In addition, information on assays of immune response, assays for patient selection, and the availability of patients for clinical trials, is requested.

A template to organize responses can be found at <http://patsinitiative.nci.nih.gov/>.

Inquiries regarding this RFI can be directed to
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