

Pilot Research Project Funding Background and Criteria

Background:

The Department of Family Medicine (DFM) has set aside \$40,000 for the Year 2018/2019 to fund pilot research projects.

- \$20,000 where the principal investigator of the proposed pilot project is a faculty member with a primary affiliation to DFM, and a member of Family Medicine Associates
- \$20,000 where the principal investigator of the proposed pilot project is a faculty member with a primary affiliation to DFM, and non-member of Family Medicine Associates (i.e. community physician or faculty researcher)

These grants are intended to build research capacity in the DFM. The study should address areas of research related to primary health care. This funding call encourages the use of the McMaster University Sentinel Information and Collaboration (MUSIC) by GFT physicians (members of the FMA). We would like physicians working in the community to be aware of the availability of the MUSIC database if they wish to use it. The projects should be designed to produce findings that can be used to support the development and submission of future research projects within 2 years, which will be externally funded.

The maximum funding allotted to a project will be \$5,000.

Criteria for accessing DFM pilot research project funding:

- The project needs to focus on areas of research related to primary health care; it is not for program development.
- The principal investigator of the proposed pilot project must be a DFM faculty member and a member of Family Medicine Associates or a DFM faculty member and a non-member of Family Medicine Associates (i.e. community physician or faculty researcher), whose primary affiliation is with DFM.
- The project needs to have at least two DFM faculty members involved as core investigators. Allied health professionals are welcome to participate as co-investigators, as are students, residents and fellows, but the project must be led by a principal investigator, as defined above.
- Preference will be given to principal investigators who have not received DFM pilot funding within the past two years.

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- Projects must meet the usual requirements for approval by a Research Ethics Board (or equivalent organization) if applicable.
- The grant may serve as the total support for a project, or supplement an existing research effort, as long as a specific portion of the research is identified as being made possible by this grant, and provided that the investigator states specifically how the balance will be funded, providing evidence of its guaranteed availability.
- The grant must not duplicate funding for a research project.
- Examples of pilot studies could include: development and testing of a new survey instrument, a needs assessment, qualitative work to develop a survey instrument, a systematic review, or testing of an intervention.