CANADIAN DIABETES ASSOCIATION

REQUEST FOR RESEARCH PROPOSALS:

Targeted Research on Diabetes & Stigma

2015 Competition

Submissions Due: Monday November 2 2015, 20:00 Hrs EST
Funding Period: Monday January 4 2016 - Tuesday January 3 2017

CANADIAN DIABETES ASSOCIATION
MISSION STATEMENT

To lead the fight against diabetes by:

- Helping those affected by diabetes to live healthy lives
- Preventing the onset and consequences of diabetes
- Discovering a cure
# Table of Contents

Introduction .................................................................................................................................................. 3  
Definitions ................................................................................................................................................. 3  
Background ............................................................................................................................................... 3  
Parameters for this Special Proposal Call ................................................................. 4  
Eligibility ...................................................................................................................................................... 4  
Application and Submission .......................................................................................................................... 4  
Peer-Review Process ................................................................................................................................. 4  
Competition Results and Feedback .............................................................................................................. 5  
Funding ......................................................................................................................................................... 5  
  Funding Expectations, Ceiling, and Duration of Support ................................................................. 5  
  Administration of Funds ........................................................................................................................... 5  
Expectations of the Successful Applicant ................................................................................................ 6  
  Ethics Approval ....................................................................................................................................... 6  
  Final Report ......................................................................................................................................... 6  
  Knowledge Translation .......................................................................................................................... 6  
  Media Relations .................................................................................................................................... 6  
Contact Information ................................................................................................................................. 6  
Appendix 1: Budget Justification/Financial Assistance .............................................................. 7  
Appendix 2: Page Limits & Descriptions for Submission Components .......................................... 8  
References .................................................................................................................................................... 9  

CDA reserves the right to interpret these guidelines and policies. Applicants should contact Claire Sears, Communications Manager, Research Knowledge Translation at claire.sears@diabetes.ca for clarification as required.
Introduction

The CDA invites applications for a targeted research grant on stigma and diabetes. In response to this call, the CDA intends to fund one research project up to $50,000 CAD (inclusive of any applicable taxes and expenses), for one year starting January 4, 2016. Researchers intending to use either quantitative or qualitative methods, or both, are eligible to apply. Research can be conducted on any type of diabetes. The intended outcomes of the research are to (1) lead to a better understanding of stigma as it relates to people affected by diabetes and (2) impact policy to better support the needs of this population. Review of applications will be completed by a special committee from The National Research Council (NRC) of the CDA.

Definitions

Applicant (i.e. Principal Investigator) directs the research project and takes financial and project management responsibility for ensuring completion of the project within budget projections.

Co-Applicants (i.e. Co-Investigators) make significant contributions to direction of the research, project management, and may, with direction from the applicant, have some responsibility for financial aspects of the research activities. All co-applicants must sign the application and, in so doing, agree to abide by all policies laid out by the CDA.

Stigma, as it relates to health conditions, “is typically a social process, experienced or anticipated, characterized by exclusion, rejection, blame, or devaluation that result from experience, perception, or reasonable anticipation of an adverse social judgment about a person or group. This judgment is based on an enduring feature of identity conferred by a health problem or health-related condition, and the judgment is in some essential way medically unwarranted” (Weiss, Ramakrishna, Somma, 2006, p.280).

Background

The Canadian Diabetes Association is a registered charitable organization, leading the fight against diabetes by helping those affected by diabetes live healthy lives, preventing the onset and consequences of diabetes, and discovering a cure. It represents the interests of those with diabetes to government, business, and the public.

Though there is a long history of research on diabetes prevention and treatment, social constructs such as stigma remain an under-researched topic (Schabert, Browne, Mosely & Speight, 2013). Culturally-specific manifestations of diabetes and stigma have been examined in contexts including China (Jaacks, Liu, Ji & Mayer-Davis, 2015), Singapore (Lee, Lim, Koh, 2015), Iran (Abdoli, Abazari & Mardanian, 2013) and Australia (Browne, Ventura, Mosely, Speight, 2013; Browne et al. 2014). In Canada, however, literature on stigma and diabetes is largely unexplored. Some research on social determinants of health features stigma, as do some studies in Aboriginal populations with diabetes (e.g. Gracey & King, 2009) though stigma is not the primary focus.

The current literature on the topic indicates that stigma plays a significant role in the quality of life and outcomes for people living with diabetes. Stigma toward people living with diabetes has been associated with more frequent hospitalizations (Lee et al., 2015), lower rates of treatment adherence (Browne et al., 2014), social setbacks including trouble in family relationships or career accomplishments (Browne et al., 2013; Jaacks et al., 2015; Lee et al., 2015; Schabert et al., 2013), and overall poorer health outcomes (Earnshaw & Quinn, 2011; Lee et al., 2015; Potter et al., 2015; Schabert et al., 2013; Teixeira & Budd, 2010). The CDA Clinical Practice Guidelines (CPGs) also note that “deficient social supports and negative attitudes towards diabetes can impact on self-care and glycemic control” (Robinson, Luthra & Vallis, 2013, p. 89). Additionally, approximately 30% of diabetic patients experience depressive symptoms (Ibid., p. 87). Gaining a clearer understanding of the relationship between stigma and diabetes in Canada can lead to...
improved quality of life for people affected by diabetes or have a positive impact on policy that can stimulate systemic change.

Parameters for this Special Proposal Call

The successful candidate will undertake research that adds to the literature on stigma and diabetes and has grounds to inform policy. Possible research topics include, but are not limited to:

- Stigma in certain patient populations of people with diabetes
- Self-stigma & the concept of worth
- How stigma affects care by HCPs
- How stigma impacts family dynamics
- The relationship between stigma and compliance to treatment plans
- Stigma, diabetes, & the workplace/schoolyard
- “Othering” people with different types of diabetes than one’s own
- Breaking the cycle: ways to dispel stigma

CDA will accept applications submitted in French and reasonable efforts will be made to maintain a bilingual CDA review process.

Eligibility

The applicant must be a researcher with an academic or research appointment with an eligible Canadian Institution. Independent researchers and Post-Doctoral fellows are eligible to apply, regardless of other funding opportunities from the CDA. Applicants who do not hold a PhD/MD are eligible for this call with support and sign-off from a supervisor. Any intent to sub-contact activities should be clearly outlined in the proposal.

Application and Submission

Proposals will be submitted by **November 2 2015, 20:00 hrs EST** through the application portal found on the [2015 Research Competition page of the CDA website](#).

Applications will include Common CVs (exported and attached as a PDF) and supporting documents for all applicants and co-applicants; a structured lay summary of the proposed work; a research proposal and supporting documents; a summary of financial assistance requested; and signatures. Please see [Appendix 2](#) for a description and page limits of each inclusion. All attachments must be uploaded in PDF format.

Misrepresentation of facts or academic dishonesty will result in disqualification of the application and possible suspension of the applicant from future CDA research competitions. A suspension period, if applicable, will be determined in consultation with the review committee.

**CDA reserves the right to reject incomplete applications without appeal. It is the responsibility of the principal applicant to ensure the application is complete prior to submission.**
Peer-Review Process

The review panel will be formed of a special committee from National Research Council (NRC). It is a standing volunteer committee composed of a Chair, a Vice-Chair, and three additional voting members. Each committee member has demonstrated expertise in diabetes, stigma, or a related area. All applications are reviewed by two committee members and, whenever deemed appropriate, by the Chair and Vice-Chair.

Review Criteria

1) Assessment of applicant, including past productivity, publication record, and suitability of research training.
2) Assessment of strengths and weaknesses of the proposal, including:
   a. Merit of the proposal, including originality, clarity, and feasibility of the hypotheses, transparency and appropriateness of methodologies, statistical rigour (as applicable), and achievability
   b. The appropriateness and thoroughness of the literature review
   c. Originality and potential impact of the research
   d. Feasibility and appropriateness of the research plan
   e. Suitability of the research environment
   f. Accuracy of the budget

Rank and Rating Scale

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Descriptor</th>
<th>Range</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Outstanding</td>
<td>4.5-4.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Excellent</td>
<td>4.0-4.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Very Good</td>
<td>3.5-3.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acceptable but Low Priority</td>
<td>3.0-3.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Needs Revision</td>
<td>2.5-2.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Needs Major Revision</td>
<td>2.0-2.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seriously Flawed</td>
<td>1.0-1.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rejected</td>
<td>0.0-0.9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Competition Results and Feedback

Competition results will be posted on the CDA website in mid-December 2015. All applicants will receive notification through email in December regarding the decision. Applicants are expected to share this information with co-applicants as needed. The successful applicant is requested to complete the Targeted Funding Agreement Form and return it to CDA via email to claire.sears@diabetes.ca by the end of day, December 29 2015. Failure to do so will be construed by CDA as declining the grant. Scientific officer notes as committee discussion will be available upon request. However, the identity of peer reviewers is confidential and will not be disclosed. Funding will start January 4 2016.

Funding

Funding Expectations, Ceiling, and Duration of Support

The maximum amount that can be requested is **$50,000 for January 4 2016 – January 3 2017.** The final budget is at the discretion of the review committee and is subject to the availability of funds. CDA does not assume any obligation beyond the funding period specified in the notification letter. Please include a detailed budget justification in the application, as outlined in Appendix 1.

Administration of Funds

The institution administering the funding must have the necessary accounting systems and financial controls in place to hold funds in trust for the applicant. Payments will be made in two installments to the administering institution as follows: **January 4 2016 and July 4 2016.**
Grantees and their institutions are at all times accountable for the use of CDA funds in accordance with the policies set out by CDA. CDA reserves the right to audit any or all funds in any given year.

Final Financial Statements must be submitted to CDA by **March 1, 2017** and should be completed on the Revenue Expense Report form that will be sent to the applicable institution.

**Expectations of the Successful Applicant**

**Ethics Approval**

The primary responsibility for ethical conduct rests with the applicant and their institution. The successful applicant must forward the appropriate ethics approval to CDA, prior to the release of funds.

**Final Report**

A final report of the research findings and any recommendations must be submitted to research@diabetes.ca on **March 1, 2017**. The awardee will first draft a report of the research findings to the Review Committee. After review and feedback implementation the awardee will submit the final report. **Failure to submit this report may result in loss of future funding.** The successful applicant will also submit a Final Financial Statement, as outlined above.

**Knowledge Translation**

The Canadian Diabetes Association expects grantees to disseminate knowledge created from CDA funding to various users (e.g. the public, healthcare practitioners, the media, scientists, and policy makers) and facilitate their translation into improved health, more effective products or services, and/or a strengthened healthcare system. In all knowledge translation activities, including but not limited to publications and presentations, grantees must prominently acknowledge the funding provided by CDA. Note that the costs of dissemination are eligible expenditures in all CDA-funded grants.

**Media Relations**

All recipients of CDA grants engaging in media-related activities regarding the work supported by CDA must advise and send copies of relevant materials in advance of the release to the Director, Research at research@diabetes.ca. This does not apply to papers for presentations at various scientific meetings or when there is casual discussion with the news media on matters not related to CDA funding.

**Contact Information**

Questions regarding submissions, eligibility criteria, and governing policies can be addressed to:

Claire Sears  
Communications Manager, Research Knowledge Translation  
Canadian Diabetes Association  
Claire.sears@diabetes.ca  
(416) 408-7084
Appendix 1: Budget Justification/Financial Assistance

In the application, please explain and justify each budget item, providing sufficient detail for reviewers to assess whether the resources requested are appropriate. Failure to provide detailed information and appropriate justification may result in recommendations to reduce the funds awarded.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Eligible Expenses</th>
<th>Ineligible Expenses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1) Supplies and Materials: All supplies and materials related to the research project are considered eligible expenses.</td>
<td>CDA reserves the right to request reimbursement of funds, in the event that any of these expenses are incurred on a CDA grant:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2) Personnel: Applications may include salaries for support staff and trainees. Annual stipend levels for students and fellows must conform to current CDA funding levels for trainees (i.e. $21,000 for doctoral students and $40,000 for post-doctoral fellows).</td>
<td>1) Indirect Costs: Administrative and indirect costs to institutions administering the funds (including but not limited to: heating, lighting, infrastructure, and space maintenance, ethics reviews, central research and financial services, management of intellectual property, providing resources, such as library and computer information, environmental assessment, and safety compliance).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3) Fieldwork Travel: Fieldwork travel expenses must be clearly outlined and justified (e.g. data collection or transportation of subjects).</td>
<td>2) Sabbatical Leave: Expenses incurred as a result of the grantee/awardee taking sabbatical.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4) Knowledge Translation: Costs related to dissemination of research results to various users (see the Knowledge Translation section for details).</td>
<td>3) Professional Training: Costs related to professional training or development (e.g. computer or language training).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5) Subject Payment: A modest honorarium for subjects may be included in the budget and subjects can be reimbursed for expenses incurred as part of their participation in the research project (e.g. travel, parking, food).</td>
<td>4) Membership Fees: Fees for professional associations or scientific societies.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6) Conference Travel: A maximum of $1500 can be used for conference and/or meeting-related travel.</td>
<td>5) Citizenship Fees: Fees for researchers applying for citizenship.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6) Cellular Phone: Cell phone charges cannot be expensed unless clearly documented as a method of data collection.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7) Investigator Salaries: Applicant and/or co-applicant salaries.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>8) Overseas Funding: CDA research funding is intended for research conducted in Canada; however, if an exceptional need for collaboration outside of Canada is identified, it should be addressed in the application in order to seek approval from the peer review committee.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Appendix 2: Page Limits & Descriptions for Submission Components

The following table outlines the page limits and descriptions for each application document. Please note all attachments must be in PDF format. The asterisk (*) below denotes a mandatory document. The contribution detail documents are not mandatory as some applicants/co-applicants may have completed this information in the CDA CCV templates. It is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure that the contributions details are completed either on the CDA CCV or in the submission portal.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Document</th>
<th>Pg. Limit</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1) Research Proposal – Detailed Attachments</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a. Structured lay summary*</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Provide a brief summary of the project (250 words maximum). Please ensure that the summary uses simple language understandable by a lay audience (general public).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Research Proposal*</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Please provide a clear, concise outline of your proposed project, including background, hypotheses, objectives, design, methods, anticipated results and conclusions, significance of the work, and possible problems and solutions. The successful candidate will clearly articulate the relevance of proposed research with the theme of this targeted research funding and how the outcomes will improve the quality of life of people living with diabetes and possibly impact policy.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. Research Proposal Appendix</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>The Appendix includes any tables, charts, figures, photographs or accompanying legends.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d. Project References*</td>
<td>unlimited</td>
<td>Only references include any tables, charts, figures, photographs or accompanying legends.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2) Common CV and Supporting Documents</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e. Common CV Confirmation Number*</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>Applicants will need to enter their CDA CCV confirmation number as well as their co-applicant's CCV confirmation number. This confirmation can be obtained when the Academic CDA Common CV template is submitted to CDA.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>f. Contributions Details - Most Significant Contributions</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Details must be completed either on the CDA CCV or in the submission portal.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>g. Contributions Details - Activities and Contributions</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Details must be completed either on the CDA CCV or in the submission portal.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>h. Contributions Details - Interruptions and Delays</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Details must be completed either on the CDA CCV or in the submission portal.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>i. Contributions Details - Patents and Intellectual Property Rights</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Details must be completed either on the CDA CCV or in the submission portal.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>j. Contributions Details - Publications List</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Details must be completed either on the CDA CCV or in the submission portal.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>k. Roles and Responsibilities*</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Please elaborate on specific expertise, roles and responsibilities of the applicant and co-applicants (as applicable) in this project.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3) Budget Information</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Budget Attachment: Financial Assistance Details*</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>All requested budget categories must be well justified. The maximum requested amount cannot exceed $50,000 for one year. Please provide sufficient budget information for the project. Eligible items for reimbursement can be found in Appendix 1 above.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4) Signature Pages*</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>Please ensure that all participants: applicants, co-applicants or supervisors sign, scan, and upload the signature pages.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
References


Browne, J. L., Ventura, A., Mosely, K., & Speight, J. (2013). 'I call it the blame and shame disease': a qualitative study about perceptions of social stigma surrounding type 2 diabetes. BMJ Open, 3(11), e003384.


