

Possible New Faculty Research Award

Draft for discussion at Science Subcommittee of the
Independent Citizens Oversight Committee (ICOC)
June 6, 2011

Introduction: The use of stem cells in regenerative medicine is a new area of research that requires a cadre of well-trained physician scientists to advance innovative translational stem cell science toward clinical development. Investigators in the early stages of their careers find it very challenging in the current restrictive funding environment to undertake innovative translational research due to tremendous pressures to obtain results, publish scientific papers, and acquire grants quickly. In addition, physician-scientists, who are critical to the development of translational projects, face these challenges as well as significant constraints on their time available for research due to clinical service.

An Option: New Faculty Award for physician scientists for the conduct of early translational research

Draft Eligibility:

- Academic and non-profit research institutions in California.
 - Institutional limits, LOI process
- A Physician Scientist with a M.D. or a M.D./Ph.D. degree who is within 6 years of holding his/her first independent position at the application deadline.

Award Information:

- Term: 5 years (?)
- Total direct project costs up to \$400,000/year
- Estimated program costs ~\$80 million (assumes 20 awards)

Timeline (earliest possible under current planned schedule)

- Post RFA: Spring 2012
- GWG Review: late Fall 2012