Guidelines for Application

Application is on email basis. Please send us one page summary of the proposal at the program office (External_Innovation@dsi.com).

Eligibility: Researchers affiliated with universities and research institutions, who have ideas which may lead to drug discovery. The program is not open to undergraduate or graduate students.

Research Budget: up to $230,000 for one year including overhead/indirect costs

Term: 1-3 years. Successful program(s) will be considered for staging into collaborative research.

Selection Criteria:

- Matching needs (Research interests)
- Originality and uniqueness of research
- Drug discovery potential
- Feasibility of research plan
- Non-redundancy with Daiichi Sankyo's internal research projects and current collaboration

Deadline: Rolling application (until March 2024)

Research Interests

Oncology

I. Novel targeted protein degradation technology other than ubiquitin-proteasome system (ex. autophagy-lysosome pathway)
II. Novel IO targets focused on pml-derived MDSCs, ILCs or enhancement of tumor antigenicity (for which mechanisms are confirmed in human-derived samples)
III. In vitro assay system that reflects in vivo epigenetic status and mechanism analysis of epigenetics targeting small molecule compounds
IV. Novel hit / lead finding technology targeting “undruggable” proteins especially in the epigenetics area

Non-Oncology

I. Novel disease relevant target identification research by using patient tissue samples or genetical analysis for the following target diseases (* both are neuroinflammation perspective)
   a) Immune diseases: refractory immune diseases and lung fibrosis
   b) Neurodegenerative diseases*: Alzheimer’s disease, Perkinson’s disease and ALS
   c) Psychiatric diseases*: Schizophrenia, Autism spectrum disorder, addiction & anxiety, major depression disorders
   d) Rare diseases: CNS, liver (mono or double genetic)
e) Ophthalmological disorders (AMD, RP and PDR)

II. Novel in vitro (iPSC derived) and in vivo models that recapture human pathological mechanisms/conditions of immune and psychiatric diseases described above

III. Biomarker research for patient stratification in neuroinflammation derived disease described above

IV. Drug delivery technologies for siRNAs to brain, heart, lung & kidney

V. Novel RNA targeting small molecules & editing technologies (not RNase2, Ago2 & ADAR) with CNS diseases and rare diseases target

VI. AAV platform: new capsid library (CNS target)

Further information is available on our website below.

https://www.daiichisankyo.com/rd/strategy_operations/open_innovation/our_interests/

Parallel Application to Other non-Daiichi Sankyo Grants

Public Grant

DS may accept an application for a research topic by an individual that has already applied for a public grant for such research topic so long as the applicable intellectual property is controlled by either the PI and/or university.

Pharma-Sponsored Grant

DS may accept an application for a research topic by an individual that has already applied for a private grant for such research topic, but DS reserves the right to decline such application for any reason, including if such individual accepts a private grant.

Please feel free to contact us for any inquires (External_Innovation@dsi.com).