

The Wisconsin Head & Neck Cancer SPORE Grant is soliciting applications:

Developmental Research Program (DRP)

The ultimate objective of the Wisconsin Head and Neck SPORE Grant (PI: Paul Harari, MD) is to advance translational research to improve the outcome for Head and Neck Cancer (HNC) patients. The University of Wisconsin holds one of three funded [H&N SPORE Grants](#) in the United States. HNC is the sixth most common cancer worldwide with over 600,000 new cases diagnosed annually. The US alone has ~60,000 newly diagnosed HNC patients each year. These patients frequently bear a disproportionate burden from their cancers based on the critical anatomic location of their disease. HN tumors and treatment often compromise speech, swallow and breathing function, in addition to creating significant changes in physical appearance and social interactions. Efforts to improve cure rates must be carefully balanced with efforts to reduce treatment morbidity to enable improved overall outcome for HNC patients. Visit <https://hn-spore.wisc.edu> to find out more about UW HNC research, programs and available biostatistics and HNC pathology resources.

The **Developmental Research Program** of the Wisconsin Head and Neck SPORE seeks to **fund pilot project applications** that will:

- Attract experienced investigators to the field of Head and Neck Cancer (HNC)
- Promote basic, clinical, and translational HNC research
- Result in preliminary data to support successful competitive national grants (R01 or equivalent)

Proposed **translational research** is expected to address one or more of the following:

1. Diagnosis, prevention and/or treatment of HNC
2. Improved understanding of underlying biological mechanisms of HNC
3. Identification of novel biomarkers and/or imaging modalities in HNC

PROJECT PERIOD: Aug. 1, 2018 - Jul. 31, 2019 (can submit for competitive renewal in Y3)

DEADLINES: **LOI: March 9, 2018**
 Application: April 6, 2018

Please submit a PDF of your application through your department's grants management office to smpiasko@wisc.edu. Please include subject line "DRP_2018_Application" for consideration.

FUNDING LEVELS (1-2 Years): \$25,000-\$50,000 per year

ELIGIBILITY: Funds from this program will support the UW Professor title series (including Assistant, Associate and full Professor).

The University of Wisconsin is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer. The SPORE program places special emphasis on recruiting qualified women and minorities. Final recommendations for funding will be made by the DRP leadership and HN SPORE executive committees.

LETTER OF INTENT (due to Shari Piaskowski (smpiasko@wisc.edu) by March 9, 2018):
Please include 1-2 sentence description of proposal to assist in reviewer selection.

APPLICATION FORM REQUIREMENTS (11pt Arial Normal, ½ inch margins):

- **Cover Page** (template can be downloaded from <https://hn-spore.wisc.edu/drp/>)
- **Scientific Abstract** (350 word maximum)
- **NIH Biosketch** for applicant and co-investigators
- **Description of project structure** and how it will fulfill the HN SPORE mission*, including anticipated timeline for completing the project within 1-2 years (1/2 page)
- **Research Strategy** (limit 4 pages)
 - Specific aims
 - Background and significance
 - Innovation and approach
 - HN SPORE Biostats Core is available for biostatistical support
 - Anticipated results and implications
- **Bibliography**
- **Budget** (template can be downloaded from <https://hn-spore.wisc.edu/drp/>)
- **Budget Justification**
 - Specific description of how the \$25K or \$50K award will be used.
 - If full project costs exceed \$50,000, please indicate how you will cover remaining costs (matching funds or otherwise).
- **Resources and Environment** (1 page)
- **Letter of Support** (one letter from department chair required)
- **Protocol Assurances:**
 - Please refer to the cover page to indicate the status of protocols for vertebrate animals, human subjects and research involving recombinant DNA technologies.
 - Protocol does not need to be approved at time of submission, but must be approved before funds can be released.
 - If you are using vertebrate animals or human subjects research, please contact Shari Piaskowski during application process to discuss protocol timelines.

**The Wisconsin Head and Neck SPORE seeks to identify and translate new scientific discoveries into significant and durable treatment advances for patients with HNC. These advances strive to increase HNC cure rates and diminish normal tissue toxicities.*

EVALUATION CRITERIA:

The HN SPORE Developmental Research Program targets applications that:

- Attract experienced investigators to the field of Head and Neck Cancer (HNC)
- Promote basic, clinical, and translational HNC research
- Result in preliminary data to support successful competitive national grants (R01 or equivalent)

Proposals must be focused on H&N Cancer to be eligible for funding support. Proposals will be scored based on the following criteria:

- 1) Overall Impact
- 2) Significance
- 3) Innovation
- 4) Approach
- 5) Environment
- 6) Investigator
- 7) Potential for Translation

AWARD TERMS AND CONDITIONS:

Upon receipt of an award, awardees will receive an overview of program obligations and agree to the terms of the program. Specifically, applicants will be required to:

- Attend relevant HNC SPORE meetings, such as
 - monthly HNC SPORE translational research meeting
 - normally schedule the 2nd Thursday of each month, 4:30pm in 3170 WIMR
 - annual HNC SPORE retreat
 - will be held at the Discovery Building this year on June 7 and 8th
- Submit an annual progress report.
- Present a research project update at the Wisconsin H&N SPORE annual retreat.

Thank you for your interest and involvement with the Wisconsin H&N SPORE Grant. For more information regarding the goals of the Wisconsin H&N SPORE grant projects, programs and cores, please see <https://hn-spore.wisc.edu/>.

Inquiries should be directed to:

Shari Piaskowski
HN SPORE Administrator
(608) 263-6686
smpiasko@wisc.edu