

APPLICATION GUIDELINES FOR CoSTAR-HS AMR RESEARCH GRANT (CoSTAR-HS ARG)

(Closing Date: 16th Aug 2017, Wednesday, 5:00pm)

I. Overview

The **Collaborative Solutions Targeting Antimicrobial Resistance Threats in Health System (CoSTAR-HS)** is funded by the National Medical Research Council's (NMRC's) Centre Grant call announced in August 2016. It is a partnership involving researchers and clinicians from the National University Health System (NUHS), Singapore General Hospital (SGH), and Communicable Diseases Centre (CDC). CoSTAR-HS aims to build capacity, infrastructure and networking opportunities for AMR research in Singapore.

CoSTAR-HS Antimicrobial Resistance Research Grant (CoSTAR-HS ARG) aims to encourage exploratory and developmental research projects by providing support for the early and conceptual stage research. It is intended for innovative research projects that

- a. Develop and strengthen inter-institutional research collaboration or networks in Singapore
- b. Need to utilize the **facility cores** developed under CoSTAR-HS

*Details on **facility cores** can be found [here](#)*

Proposals are encouraged to be in line with any of the research themes within CoSTAR-HS as shown below (i to viii), although research in other areas will also be considered (ix):

- i. Multiple Combination Bactericidal Test (MCBT) to guide XDR-GNB (especially CRE) treatment
- ii. Novel diagnostics for the identification of Antimicrobial Resistant (AMR) determinants
- iii. Novel infection control strategies assessment
- iv. Optimizing antimicrobial stewardship programmes (ASPs) in Singapore
- v. Carbapenemase producing Enterobacteriaceae in Singapore (CaPES): Epidemiology, risk factors and outcomes
- vi. Integration of whole genome sequencing (WGS) into infection control
- vii. Combining shoe-leather epidemiology with WGS to model and predict CP-CRE transmission dynamics
- viii. Health systems and behavioral science (HSBS) research to address the drivers of AMR in hospitals
- ix. White space: Seeks investigators-led AMR research which may provide insights on new disruptive solutions for current and future healthcare challenges

*Details on **research themes** can be found [here](#)*

II. Eligibility Criteria

- Each proposal must involve investigators/researchers from at least 2 of the 3 main institution partners of CoSTAR-HS (NUHS, SGH, CDC). Investigators and collaborators from other institutions are welcome to apply.
- PI must have a PhD and/or MBBS/BDS/PharmD/MD and/or other appropriate Postgraduate Qualifications (at least a Master's Degree). For proposals involving patients, either the PI or co-I should be SMC-registered; or should be able to demonstrate ability to access patients through SMC-registered collaborators. It is recognized that some studies may not require patient involvement.
- PI must hold a primary appointment in a local publicly funded institution and salaried by the institution.

III. Funding Details

- Applicants can apply up to **S\$50,000 per research project**, spanning **no more than 12 months**.
- The budget for this grant is solely for project operational needs, excluding manpower, equipment and conference travels. Use of research facilities where the same are available in CoSTAR-HS will not be funded.
*Details on **facility cores** developed under CoSTAR-HS can be found [here](#)*
- No IRC will be provided.
- All research must be conducted in Singapore.

IV. Submission Guidelines

- Applications should be typed in **Arial font size 10 double spacing** using the attached [application form](#).
- Late or incomplete applications will be rejected.
- 1 softcopy application (without signatures) to be emailed to ephzun@nus.edu.sg and 1 hardcopy application (with original signatures) to be mailed to the following address by **16th Aug 2017 (Wed) 5:00pm**.

CoSTAR-HS
c/o Saw Swee Hock School of Public Health
National University of Singapore
Tahir Foundation Building
12 Science Drive 2
#10-01, Singapore 117549
(Attn: Zunairah binti Lukman/ Quake Ai Li)

- Softcopy proposal to be submitted as **1 file** including all attachments either in Word DOC or PDF format.
- Applicants will be informed of the outcome of applications by end September 2017. Awarded projects should start no later than 1 November 2017.

V. Reporting Requirements

Successful grant applicants are required to submit a **progress report every 6 monthly** and a **final report 1 month** upon project completion.

VI. Compliances

- For projects that require **ethics approval**, a copy of the approval letter must be forwarded to the CoSTAR-HS Secretariat (ephzun@nus.edu.sg) within 3 months from the date of award.
- All collaborating investigators of grant proposal will have deemed to understand and agree to the **data sharing policy** stipulated by NMRC (http://www.nmrc.gov.sg/content/nmrc_internet/home/top_nav/grant-management/data-sharing.html) and will undertake to implement this policy on their proposed project, upon successful grant award.

VII. Enquiries

Please contact:

- i. Ms Zunairah Binti Lukman (ephzun@nus.edu.sg)
- ii. Ms Quake Ai Li (ephqal@nus.edu.sg)