



SNOWDOME FOUNDATION TRANSLATIONAL RESEARCH PROJECT | MULTIPLE MYELOMA CAR T-CELL THERAPY Guidance for Applicants

INTRODUCTION

We are making hope real for Australian blood cancer patients. Established in 2010, the Snowdome Foundation (Snowdome) is on a mission to accelerate next-generation treatments to enable Australian blood cancer patients to live longer, better lives. We do this by connecting philanthropic donations with Australia's brightest research minds to fund impactful and innovative research, which 'unlocks' access to pioneering treatment options, providing patients with the best opportunity for a cure.

Since 2010, Snowdome has committed more than \$52M to blood cancer research, extended over 65+ multi-year research grants and funded in excess of 89+ research positions.

Snowdome is resolute in its focus to accelerate next-generation treatments and throughout 2023 and beyond, will look to continue to pioneer advances in immunotherapies.

THE OPPORTUNITY

Snowdome is inviting applications in multiple myeloma that focuses on CAR T-cell therapy. The purpose of this Grant is to accelerate the clinical implementation of CAR T-cell treatments for patients with myeloma and related diseases through the support of cutting-edge, high-quality translational existing or planned clinical trials and studies. **The research must provide a step towards impact for patients.**

Collaboration across Centres, national, or international are encouraged.

The successful applicant will receive a maximum funding of \$150,000 per year for up to three (3) years. Total funding available is \$450,000.

TIMELINES

Call Opens:	Tuesday 9 May 2023
Deadline for Submissions:	3pm on Thursday 6 July 2023
Short List Notified:	July
Short List Interviews:	Late July 2023, early August 2023
Outcome Announced:	Friday 25 August 2023

ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

Applications for this funding project will be reviewed by medical/scientific experts, people affected by blood cancer and the Snowdome Grants Committee.

Assessment criteria used to make the funding decisions include:

- ⇒ Relevance
 - How relevant and timely are the research questions to people affected by myeloma?
- ⇒ Applicability
 - The proposed research project must demonstrate direct applicability to advancing clinical use of CAR T-cell treatments in patients with myeloma and related diseases. Applications must outline how the proposed research project and its results will translate into clinical practice.
- ⇒ Innovation
 - Is the work novel or is it already being undertaken elsewhere? Does the project clearly address a gap in patient care?
 - Applicants must demonstrate a track record of successful completion of innovative and clinically applicable research in the field of blood cancers.
- ⇒ Feasibility
 - Does the research team have the track record and expertise required to achieve the aims of the project? Is the project achievable within the time and resources requested? Are there any barriers to achieving the objectives and have the applicants included steps to mitigate this?
- ⇒ Other
 - Applicants must have experience in haematology. The successful appointee will perform top-quality, high-impact research towards the discovery of new therapies that are aligned with [Snowdome Foundation Research Pillars](#).
 - The research should primarily be conducted in translational human clinical studies in preference to animal studies.

The research will be conducted in accordance with regulatory and ethics requirements of the Centre. Quantifiable outcomes and milestones to be agreed upon and set in advance for the research development objectives.

APPLICATION FORM

See Attached

Proposed Start Date & Duration: We would anticipate the project commencing in February 2024. Should this be different, please explain the proposed start date and reasons for this. The duration should be between 12 to 36 months.

Clinical Trial Association: Is your project associated with a current clinical trial? If so, please state the name of the trial and host institution. An outline of the planned trial is expected.



FINANCE & COSTS

Eligible Costs

The successful applicant will receive maximum funding of \$150,000 per year, for up to three (3) years. Total funding available is \$450,000. Applicants must justify use of the requested budget. Budget items must be directly related to the proposed research project. Expenses must be incurred between the grant start and end dates. We will not fund allocated or indirect costs.

Eligible expenditure costs include.

- ⇒ Research staff salary costs
- ⇒ Recurrent costs and costs directly attributable to the project such as patient recruitment, research services
- ⇒ Consumables
- ⇒ Equipment essential to conduct the proposed research
- ⇒ Research Governance/Ethics fees

SELECTION CRITERIA

Assessment

All applicants will be assessed against the selection criteria, described as follows:

1. Strength of research proposal, including project feasibility, quality of science, capacity for clinical translation and justification of the research budget (25%);
2. Research significance and innovation, aligning with Snowdome's mission and funding criteria (25%);
3. Alignment with Assessment Criteria (25%); and
4. Strength of CV and Publications (25%).

GRANT SELECTION PROCESS

Review

Applications will be subject to review by the five (5) members of the Selection Panel. Members include medical/scientific experts, people affected by blood cancer and representatives of the Snowdome Grants Committee.

Eligible applicants will be assessed against the selection criteria to generate an overall score to rank applications.

Snowdome reserves the right not to award the Snowdome Multiple Myeloma CAR T-Cell Grant if no suitable applicants are identified.

CONDITIONS OF GRANT

The successful applicant must adhere to the contractual, reporting and promotional requirements attached to this grant.

- ⇒ A Funding Agreement with the Snowdome Foundation is required to be created. The Terms & Conditions' of the Agreement cover standard research contract obligations, including acknowledgment of Snowdome in subsequent publications, presentations, reporting requirements and intellectual property.
- ⇒ All research funding must be spent in accordance with the approved budget in the funding application, by the project end date.
- ⇒ The Grantee will be required to provide six (6) monthly milestone reports, acquitting progress against pre-set milestones on the approved Snowdome milestones report template.
- ⇒ Snowdome must be informed as soon as possible of any event which impacts the Grantee's ability to conduct the research activity or achieve the agreed milestones.
- ⇒ The Grantee may be requested to present project findings to Snowdome.
- ⇒ The Grantee must declare any other funding sources for the research project.

SUBMITTING YOUR APPLICATION

Please submit your application to grants@snowdome.org.au. Please complete the accompanying Application Form, saved (Word or PDF) in the format of *SnowdomeMyelomaGrant2023_[Surname]*.

Please provide a copy of your CV (Maximum 2 pages) with your application. Your CV should include:

- Qualifications
- Current and prior positions (last 5 years)
- Awards/Notable achievements (last 5 years)
- Top Ten Publications (last 10 years)
- 3 References (including email and phone contact details).

Submit your CV, Statement of Support and Completed Application Form to grants@snowdome.org.au.