



Request for Applications 2024 PeDRA Consensus Grant

Overview

Evidence-based consensus recommendations published by experts in the management of disease are a critical fiber of the healthcare fabric. Healthcare providers rely on guidelines and expert recommendations to inform treatment decisions. Healthcare entities reference guidelines to inform reimbursements and medication formularies. Finally, researchers compare new therapeutic or procedural interventions to standard-of-care practice guidelines in randomized controlled trials. However, many diseases still lack up-to-date guidelines or expert consensus recommendations, resulting in wide variability in practice patterns, and leaving many patients without access to treatment they need. Evidence-based guidelines and expert consensus best practice recommendations are lacking for many pediatric skin diseases.

To help address this need, PeDRA is calling for submissions to its **Consensus Grants** program, which will provide support for the creation of consensus guidelines, best practice recommendations, or consensus treatment plans for the treatment of diseases in the field of pediatric dermatology in the United States and/or Canada. Applicants may apply to receive:

\$10,000 with centralized project management provided by PeDRAⁱ to support your project

or

\$25,000 without centralized support provided by PeDRA

Interested teams and/or individuals are invited to submit proposals to create consensus-based guidelines or best practice recommendations for a disease of their choice, using a rigorous methodology of their choice. However, priority will be given to proposals that address diseases for which contemporary guidelines do not exist, and which use established consensus methodology.

Application

Applications for a Consensus Grant must be submitted by email to research@pedraresearch.org as a single pdf that includes the following:

1. Application form (*fillable PDF available at <https://pedraresearch.org/consensus-grant/>*)
2. Cover letter (*2 page maximum*)
3. Proposal (*5 page maximum, not including references*) to provide reviewers with a clear understanding of the following:
 - Background and Significance
 - Methods
 - Project Team
 - Timeline
 - Anticipated outcome(s)
 - References – maximum of 20

4. Biosketches of everyone on the team (*5 page maximum per biosketch*) - NIH format
5. Project support infrastructure (1 page maximum) – required for projects not requesting centralized project management from PeDRA
6. Letter(s) of support – letters are not required from each member of the project team
7. Budget with brief justification (*2 page maximum*)

Applications must be written in 11pt Arial font or larger with at least one-half inch margins. Total file size for the combined pdf may not exceed 20MB.

Review

Applications will be evaluated by an expert panel of peer-reviewers based on the following criteria:

1. Significance/Topic
 - *Clinical question(s) to be addressed by consensus are clearly stated;*
 - *Relevance of clinical question(s) to pediatric dermatologists, dermatologists, and primary care providers;*
 - *Up-to-date evidence-based guidelines or expert consensus recommendations do not exist;*
 - *Presence of controversy or significant variation in clinical practice;*
 - *Potential to improve safety, reduce variation and cost of care;*
 - *Plans for future research to improve evidence are discussed.*
2. Clarity of proposal
 - *Is the proposal well organized and easy to understand?*
3. Approach and feasibility
 - *Consensus process is clearly delineated and follows established best practices. If the consensus process modifies or deviates from an established methodology, rationale is clearly given.*
 - *Is the methodology well thought out?*
 - *Does the methodology match the question and the available evidence?*
 - *Is there a clear plan for how to conduct the literature review and grade the literature?*
4. Investigator(s) and research environment
 - *Specify who will participate in consensus process and how experts were identified.*
 - *Is the project team appropriate?*
 - *Is there a plan for soliciting additional expertise (including outside of pediatric dermatology) if needed?*
5. Budget
 - *Clear and logical allocation of resources – project management, literature review, travel, in-person meetings;*
 - *Plan to obtain additional funding or use other resources in order to successfully complete project.*
 - *Salary support **may** be requested.*
6. Project management infrastructure
 - *For projects not requesting centralized project management from PeDRA only*

Priority consideration will be given to applications that include mentorship from, or collaboration with, individual(s) with relevant experience or expertise in consensus methodology. Toward this end, applicants are strongly encouraged to set up a consultation with a member of the Best Practices Task Force prior to grant submission. Additional priority will be given to applications that support PeDRA's commitment to advancing equity, diversity, and inclusion across all facets of its organization and pediatric dermatology research. Diversity and inclusion strengthen the PeDRA research network and are critical to the pursuit of its mission.

Peer-reviewers may request revisions or clarifications during the review period, prior to making an award. Note that such requests may be made from multiple applicants and are not a guarantee of funding.

Eligibility

Applications must be submitted by teams of three or more individuals, including **one** Project Lead who will be responsible for accepting and managing grant funds and executing the project. Project Leads must hold the degree of MD/ DO (or equivalent), be a member of PeDRA or the Society for Pediatric Dermatology (SPD), and be eligible to apply for grants under the guidelines of their host institution. Other members of the project team are not subject to eligibility requirements, however their reason for being included on the team must be clearly communicated in the proposal.

Award

Applicants may request up to **\$25,000 without centralized project management from PeDRA or \$10,000 with centralized project management from PeDRA (direct costs only)**. Applicants may choose to use the total award amount over the period of either **one or two years**.

Important Dates

Application deadline:	11:59 PM PT, Thursday, December 5, 2024
Awards made:	no later than February 15, 2025
Earliest start date:	April 1, 2025
Interim report date(s):	Every six months during the award period
Final report date:	Six weeks after end of award period

Questions

To arrange a consultation with a representative from the Best Practices Task Force or for additional information, please email research@pedraresearch.org.

ⁱ PeDRA has contracted with a third party organization with expertise in project management, literature review, and scientific writing. This organization will be connected with successful applicants to support the efficient completion of their consensus project at no expense to the applicant.