REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Harvard Ipsen Alliance

BACKGROUND

Ipsen and the Harvard Office of Technology Development are pleased to announce a Research Alliance aimed at supporting new research projects in the areas of neuroendocrine tumors, neuromuscular disorders, and platform technologies related to toxins and peptides.

Ipsen is a global specialty-driven pharmaceutical company with total sales exceeding €1.2 billion in 2013. Ipsen’s development strategy is supported by 3 franchises: neurology, endocrinology, and uro-oncology. Ipsen’s R&D is focused on two innovative and differentiated technological platforms, peptides and toxins. In 2013, R&D expenditure totaled close to €260 million, representing more than 21% of the company’s sales. Ipsen has close to 4,600 employees worldwide, with a newly opened R&D site in Kendall Square, Cambridge MA.

FRAMEWORK AND FUNDING

OTD is pleased to share this Request for Proposals, seeking proposals for research projects, aimed at the validation of novel drug targets, discovery and early development of compounds that ideally consist of peptides or toxins, or technologies related to these two platforms.

Funding per project is anticipated to be up to $750,000/year (including all indirect costs) with a period of performance of up to 3 years, based on the specific research plan, for a total funding amount of up to $2,250,000.

Through the selection process and, for the duration of the project, Harvard PIs will be invited to interact with Ipsen’s R&D organization via a Scientific Contact appointed by Ipsen. Collaborative projects between Harvard and Ipsen scientists are encouraged.

Proposal Submission Deadline June 15, 2015
Contact for inquiries: julie_hamill@harvard.edu
SPECIFIC CHALLENGE TOPICS:

1 – Endosomal escape strategies:

Certain therapeutic approaches have seen limited success because the therapeutic modality becomes trapped in the endosome following entry into the cell. Ipsen is seeking new insights into endosomal escape, as well as approaches to facilitate endosomal escape of therapeutics in order to ensure cytosolic or, eventually, nuclear delivery.

2 – Novel targets in Oncology, Neurology, and Endocrinolgy:

Ipsen is seeking novel targets with genetic or biological validation addressable by peptide therapeutics. Of particular interest are targets in the following disease areas:

- Oncology: neuroendocrine tumors, pancreatic, hepatocellular, gastric, bladder and prostate cancers, as well as glioblastoma
- Adult endocrinology disorders such as Cushing’s Disease Neuromuscular disorders

3 – Targeted secretion inhibitors:

Ipsen is seeking ideas for pathologies and clinical applications in which specific inhibition of hyper-secretion would be of therapeutic value, and for strategies to address these applications by using a targeting domain relevant for the application in combination with Ipsen’s blocking secretion enzyme. Competing approaches would also be welcome.

4 - Neuroendocrine differentiation in tumors:

Ipsen is inviting projects aiming to determine and exploit the contribution of neuroendocrine differentiation to the development and aggressiveness of tumors in humans.

ELIGIBILITY AND RESTRICTIONS

Anyone with rights as a Principal Investigator and whose employer is Harvard University is eligible to apply. Investigators having Harvard academic appointments who are not employed by Harvard University are not eligible. No PI may submit more than one proposal to this RFP.

APPLICATION PROCESS

The program will use a two-stage process for submission and review of applications. Proposals may contain confidential information, if necessary. Harvard OTD and Ipsen will treat all communications as confidential.

*We recommend that you reach out to your OTD contact to discuss your idea for a proposal prior to preparing (or submitting).*
1. Pre-Proposals

Initially, a brief summary of the proposed research ("Pre-proposal"), with a one-page "Project Synopsis" will be submitted to the Harvard OTD by the Principal Investigator.

The pre-proposal should address and contain the following:
1) Describe the research objectives and any relevant preliminary results
2) Include an overview of the planned implementation of the proposed project
3) Principal Investigator(s)
4) Key project participants, if any

2. Detailed Proposals

The second stage of the application will require Principal Investigators to prepare and submit, in consultation with OTD and the Ipsen Scientific Contact, a detailed Research Plan and a simple basic Budget, which together with the Short Proposal (with any revisions therein noted) will constitute the "Detailed Proposal."

TIMELINE and DEADLINES

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<tr>
<td>June 15, 2015</td>
<td>Deadline for submission of Pre-Proposals to OTD</td>
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<td>July 13, 2015</td>
<td>Announcement of Pre-Proposal finalists</td>
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AWARD REQUIREMENT: TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Project Team

A Project Team will be established for each Project, including representatives from Ipsen and an assigned Ipsen Scientific Contact as well as the Harvard PI and team members as assigned by the PI. The Ipsen Scientific Contact will serve as the single point of contact for the Harvard team.

The Project Team will meet at least once every three (3) months during the project term, at least once each year must be in person. The Project Team will be responsible for reviewing the progress of the project, making recommendations with respect to the scope and conduct of the project and monitor the exchange of any information and materials. The Project Team will NOT have the authority to direct the research under the project; this will be the PI’s sole responsibility.

Publication

Publication of the research project results will not be restricted, except that Principal Investigators will need to agree to and comply with a short pre-disclosure period for all
research publications and presentations resulting from the funded work, intended to enable filing of patent applications when appropriate.

CONTACT INFORMATION

For additional information on the program and the application process, please contact your Director of Business Development at OTD or write to:

Julie Hamill
Sr. Associate Director, Corporate Alliances
Email: julie_hamill@harvard.edu
Telephone: 617-432-2039

All proposals should be sent via email to otd@harvard.edu by June 15, 2015. Please make it clear in the subject heading of these emails that this is for submission to the Harvard Ipsen Research Alliance.