**APPLICATION COVER SHEET – Betty and John Laidlaw MND Research Prize for 2022**

Please complete this cover sheet and submit with your application for funding before 6 pm AEST on Thursday 26th August 2021 to Dr Gethin Thomas at research@mndaustralia.org.au

Applications should not be submitted by researchers who will be unable to provide a financial acquittal before 30th June 2022 for previously funded projects.

**Please read the application guidelines before completing your application**.

**APPLICATION CHECK LIST**

Please check the three boxes below with an X.

1. I have read and understood the application guidelines [ ]
2. I am an Australian citizen / resident [ ]
3. Application has been saved as a single PDF document which includes: [ ]
* Cover sheet
* Aims and hypotheses
* Significance
* Background and Research Plan
* Reference list
* Budget
* Other sources of funding to support the project
* Other MNDRA applications for 2022 in which applicant is named as a co-investigator
* Principal Investigator CV
* Reports on MNDRA projects funded in the past five years if the applicant was the principal investigator for the project

**APPLICATION COVER SHEET – BETTY AND JOHN LAIDLAW MND RESEARCH PRIZE for 2022**

**APPLICATION DETAILS**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **1** | Project title |  |
| **2** | Title, name and qualifications of applicant (Principal Investigator) |  |
| **3** | Date doctoral thesis was passed |  |
| **4** | Email address of PI |  |
| **5** | Mobile phone number of PI |  |
| **6** | Name, institution, % contribution and role of Co-Investigators Note: Associate Investigators should not be listed |  |
| **7** | Institution administering the grant |   |
| **8** | Name, email address and phone number of administrator lodging the application |  |
| **9** | Total budget funds requested (maximum $200,000) | $ |

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|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **10** | Mark one box (or **no more than two** boxes) in the grid below to indicate the category/stage that most closely describes your project. |
| Project category  | cause | onset/ diagnosis | progression | treatment | other (specify) |
| genetics |   |   |   |   |   |
| genomics |   |   |   |   |   |
| proteomics |   |   |   |   |   |
| cell biology |   |   |   |   |   |
| clinical measurement |  |   |   |   |   |
| metabolism |   |   |   |   |   |
| immunology |   |   |   |   |   |
| environment |   |   |   |   |   |
| epidemiology |   |   |   |   |   |
| health care |   |   |   |   |   |
| social research |   |   |   |   |   |
| other (specify) |  |   |   |   |   |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **11** | Check one box with an X to select the research priority that has the greatest relevance for your project | check box |
| 1) | **Advance MND research to understand its causes** |  |
|  | Research that improves knowledge of the underlying disease mechanisms causing MND and the development of representative laboratory models. |[ ]
| 2) | **Foster the treatment development process and clinical trials** |  |
|  | Research that aims to lead to new treatments. Research that is linked to or involves conducting clinical trials. |[ ]
| 3) | **Enhance clinical and healthcare research and the evidence-base for clinical and healthcare practice** |  |
|  | Clinical and healthcare research to promote innovation and best practice to improve quality of life for people living with MND and their families and carers. |[ ]

**12. Abstract** (100 words)

Briefly describe, in a manner the general public will easily understand, the overall aims, methods and expected outcomes of your project. It is also critical to explain how the research might lead to benefit for people with MND. Do not include a definition of MND as this is readily available.

**13. Social media: Proposed tweet should your application be successful** (280 characters max)

**BETTY AND JOHN LAIDLAW MND RESEARCH PRIZE for 2022**

Applications should not be submitted by researchers who will be unable to provide a financial acquittal for previously funded projects before 30th June 2022.

**The application for the Betty and John Laidlaw Prize should consist of the following sections:**

* 1. **Research Proposal (5 pages) incorporating;**
		+ 1. Aims and hypothesis (maximum 1 page) - State clearly which hypotheses are to be tested. The aims of the research must be clear to the reviewers of the proposal.
			2. Background
			3. Preliminary data
			4. Research Plan - Provide a detailed outline of the 2-year project. The contribution and role of the people doing the research must be clearly defined
1. **Significance (maximum 1 page)** - Explain what is innovative about this project and how it will meet one or more of the objectives;
	1. To advance MND research to understand its causes;
	2. To foster treatment development and clinical trials; or,
	3. To enhance clinical and healthcare research and the evidence-base for clinical and healthcare practice.
2. **References (maximum 2 pages)**
3. **Curriculum vitae (maximum 2 pages per investigator) -** The people who will be doing the research are identified by their role in the research plan and by a **brief (no longer than two A4 pages) but adequate CV**for each investigator.  The CV should include at least:
	1. Academic background
	2. Present and past employment positions
	3. Research grant support (past 5 years)
	4. Selected publications included in the two-page CV should be restricted to the past five years. Note that list of publications should not include publications 'in preparation' or 'submitted' or published on preprint servers.
4. **Budget outline and justification (1 page maximum) -** The budget must be directed to the aims of the project.
	1. Budget items up to $200,000 can include:
		* 1. Salary for team members in Australia
			2. Direct research costs (reagents and consumables)
			3. Attendance of the applicant at the 2022 or 2023 International Symposium on ALS/MND if a face-to-face meeting (max. $4,000).
	2. Budget items cannot include:
		* 1. Attendance at meetings (other than 5.i.c above)
			2. Travel (other than 5.i.c above)
			3. Computers
			4. Equipment (other than 5.i.b above)
			5. Indirect or overhead costs
	3. Other proposed sources of funding to support the project should be disclosed.
5. **Name(s) of institution(s) where the work will be carried out** - State in which department(s) and which institution(s) this project will primarily be carried out.

If the applicant is named as an investigator on other proposals for MNDRA funding for 2022, list the project title and principal investigator for those other applications.

If the **applicant** has received previous funding as PI from MNDRA **in the past five years**, reports on the applicant’s previously funded work must be sent with the current application.

Proposals are to be received by **6.00pm AEST on Thursday 26th August 2021.**Late applications will not be considered.

The application form and cover sheet should be saved as a single PDF document before sending by email to Dr Gethin Thomas, Executive Director Research at research@mndaustralia.org.au

**APPLICATION FORM - BETTY AND JOHN LAIDLAW MND RESEARCH PRIZE for 2022**

**Research proposal (maximum five pages)**

**Power calculation (maximum eight lines per power calculation)**

This section ensures applicants have thought about whether their study is powered sufficiently (the sample size is adequate) to answer the question to be addressed.

For the stated sample size, key features of a power calculation are:

1. the hypothesis to be tested
2. the effect size to be detected
3. the statistical test that will be conducted, including whether it is one-sided or two-sided
4. the alpha level – significance threshold, which should take into account the number of tests conducted.

Alternatively, applicants may provide justification why a power calculation is not needed or not appropriate. For example, in novel paradigms effect sizes may not be known, and hence one goal of a pilot study is to generate data for estimation of approximate effect size that can inform the design of a subsequent study.

Sometimes, the constraints of the grant funds available mean that it is not possible to conduct a well-powered study; in this case applicants should provide justification for how this grant, if awarded, will contribute to a properly powered study in future.

**Significance (maximum one page)**

1. What is new and/ or different about the proposed research plan?
2. What is the potential to significantly contribute to the knowledge base around the causes, treatments, cure or care for MND? A clear vision of how this research can be utilised and/or a path to translation is required.

**Reference list (maximum two pages)**

**Budget and justification (maximum one page)**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |   | BUDGET ITEMS | $ |  |
|  | 1 |  |  |  |
|  | 2 |  |  |  |
|  | 3 |  |  |  |
|  | 4 |  |  |  |
|  | 5 |  |  |  |
|  | 6 |  |  |  |
|  | 7 |  |  |  |
|  | 8 |  |  |  |
|  | 9 |  |  |  |
|  | 10 |  |  |  |
|  | **Total** | Not to exceed $200,000 |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |

**Expand table if needed**

**Other proposed sources of funding to support the project**

If this project or a similar project has received or has forthcoming funding from another source this must be disclosed. The additional benefits of the MNDRA funding must be clearly articulated and need for the MNDRA funding justified below.

**Other MNDRA applications for 2022 in which applicant is named as an investigator**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Project Title:** | **Principal investigator/ applicant** |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |

**Principal investigator CV (maximum two pages including references)**

**Co-Investigators’ CV (maximum 2 pages for each person – including references)**

**Reports on projects for which the applicant has received funding from MNDRA as PI in the past five years (maximum three pages for each report)**

Include: Project title, chief investigator, organisation, year of grant, $ amount received, aims, outcomes, significance, resulting publications.