Announcements from NIA’s Division of Behavioral and Social Research: Summer 2021

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FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES:

New BSR Funding Opportunities
BSR has recently published the following new RFAs and PARs:

- **PAR-21-307** Dementia Care and Caregiver Support Intervention Research (R01 Clinical Trial Required): This funding opportunity solicits mechanism-focused dementia care and caregiver support intervention development research at Stages I through V of the NIH Stage Model to address the care needs and promote the health, function, and well-being of persons with AD/ADRD and their caregivers. First application deadline is October 7, 2021. Contact Dr. Lisa Onken with questions at lisa.onken@nih.gov.

- **PAR-21-308** Pragmatic Trials for Dementia Care and Caregiver Support (R61/R33 Clinical Trial Required): This funding opportunity supports pragmatic trials to improve dementia care in real-world settings that address comparative questions faced by persons living with dementia, caregivers, and clinicians. These applications will conduct Stage I or Stage III pilots during the R61 phase to test the feasibility of implementing and integrating interventions that, if successful, can transition to a Stage IV R33 phase for implementation of large pragmatic trials. First application deadline is October 7, 2021. Contact Dr. Partha Bhattacharyya at bhattacharyyap@mail.nih.gov.

- **RFA-AG-22-025** Data Enhancements and Analyses to Clarify the Relationship between Education and Cognitive Function (including AD/ADRD) (R01 Clinical Trial Not Allowed): The goal of this initiative is to add enhanced measures of educational experiences, cognitive function, or both to existing studies and/or to conduct analyses that incorporate these measures to clarify the relationship between education, cognition, and risk of Alzheimer’s disease and
Alzheimer’s disease-related dementias (AD/ADRD), including the role of education in social disparities in AD/ADRD outcomes. NIA intends to commit $3 million in FY 2022 to fund up to two awards. Applications due October 20, 2021. Contact Dr. Amelia Karraker with questions at Amelia.Karraker@nih.gov.

- **RFA-AG-22-024** Primary Care-Based Screening and Intervention Development for Prevention of Abuse in Older and Vulnerable Adults in the Context of Alzheimer’s Disease and Related Dementias (R61/R33 Clinical Trial Required): This funding opportunity will support research that can lead to the development of evidence-based primary care screening tools and behavioral interventions to prevent abuse in at-risk older and vulnerable adults with MCI and AD/ADRD and their families. For the R61 phase, NIA intends to commit $5.6 million in FY 2022 and in FY 2023 to fund 5-7 R61 awards. Applications are due October 20, 2021. Contact Dr. Melissa Gerald with questions at melissa.gerald@nih.gov.

- **RFA-AG-22-015** Aging Research in Animals (ARIA): Promoting Rigorous Research on Behavioral and Social Processes (R61/R33 Clinical Trial Not Allowed): The goal of this initiative is to develop and strengthen animal models for behavioral and social research in the interest of furthering the mechanistic understanding of how social and physical environmental factors contribute to aging processes and the etiology and progression of age-related conditions and diseases. For the R61 phase, and pending annual appropriations, NIA intends to commit $2 million in FY 2022 to fund 5-7 awards. Applications are due October 20, 2021. Contact Dr. Melissa Gerald with questions at melissa.gerald@nih.gov.

BSR has many funding opportunities with upcoming submission deadlines this fall. Visit our [Funding Opportunities and Applicant Resources page](#) for more information including the list of funding opportunities, applicant resources, and submission deadlines.

**Pilot Opportunities**
- The BSR-funded [Network on Life Course Health Dynamics and Disparities in 21st Century America (NLCHDD)](#) is seeking pilot proposals that have potential to better understand how U.S. adult health and mortality outcomes are shaped by local...
contexts. Local contexts include environments in which individuals spend most of their time, such as neighborhoods, or are exposed to social, economic, and physical conditions that are experienced at microspatial scales (e.g., neighborhood socioeconomic deprivation, industrial pollution, street and sidewalk conditions, community amenities). Pilot proposals are due September 24, 2021 and more information can be found on the network website.

- The NIA IMPACT Collaboratory published a Request for Applications (RFA) for Pilot Grants Cycle 3B with Letters of Intent due September 17, 2021. IMPACT funds several one-year awards of pilot pragmatic clinical trials (ePCTs) that test non-pharmacological interventions embedded in health care system(s) for people living with Alzheimer’s Disease and AD-related dementias and their care partners. Under these pilots, interventions must be linked to the needs of a health care system. An optional informational webinar will be hosted on August 23 at 2pm ET to provide investigators with an overview of the application details and an opportunity to ask questions. For more information, please see their Pilots Grants page.

BSR Announcements:

**New AD/ADRD Care Implementation Milestones**

NIA’s Division of Behavioral and Social Research (BSR) is pleased to announce the release of 5 new AD/ADRD Care Research Implementation Milestones, addressing research gaps and opportunities identified at the 2020 Dementia Care Summit. These new AD/ADRD Care Research Implementation Milestones cover research in AD/ADRD health care disparities, dementia care integration and care transitions, policy impacts and payment models, dementia care data infrastructure, and ethics and implications of care partners/study partners in care teams for persons living with AD/ADRD. These new AD/ADRD Care Research Implementation Milestones will be incorporated into the AD/ADRD Research Implementation Milestone Database in Fall 2021. Visit the BSR website to read the new AD Care Milestones.

**Decadal Survey Report on Behavioral and Social Science Research in Dementia Released**
The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine released a new BSR-sponsored report highlighting opportunities for research on dementia in the behavioral and social sciences for the next 10 years. The Report, Reducing the Impact of Dementia in America: A Decadal Survey of the Behavioral and Social Sciences, compiled extensive input from the scientific community and other stakeholders to identify key areas for further research. You can download the report from the NASEM website.

Report and Senate Hearing on High and Rising Mortality Rates Among Working Age Adults

BSR-supported a National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine report on High and Rising Mortality Rates among Working-Age Adults. The committee examined increasing death rates and social disparities in the US and recent declines in U.S. life expectancy. The report highlighted that the declines were the result of two mortality trends impacting working age population, ages 25-64. Working age mortality increased for drug- and alcohol-related causes and suicide beginning in the 1990s. Mortality declines in other causes of death, most notably cardiometabolic diseases, stalled among the working age population after 2010. In July, the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions held a hearing on Addressing Disparities in Life Expectancy, which included testimony from Dr. Kathleen Mullan Harris, the chair of the report committee. You can download the highlights and entire report on the NASEM website.

SOBC News

- **SOBC Capstone Conference**: Summary report now available! On February 22-23, 2021, NIH held a Capstone Research Conference to celebrate ten years of the NIH Science of Behavior Change (SOBC) Common Fund Program. A recording of the conference and now a summary report are available for those unable to attend.

- **Grand Rounds Recording Available**: The recording of a June 2021 SOBC Grand Rounds is now available. Dr. Jeff Huffman from Harvard University presented on Developing and Testing Positive Psychology-based Interventions to Promote Physical Activity. Dr. Huffman's work focuses on developing scalable clinical interventions to improve mental health and health behaviors in people with heart disease and
related medical conditions, including developing a positive psychology-based intervention program to promote physical activity among patients with recent acute cardiac events and those with more chronic conditions. Check out all the SOBC Resource and Coordinating Center video content on the SOBC YouTube channel and subscribe to the SOBC Resource and Coordinating Center mailing list here.

BSR on Twitter
Follow us at @NIA_BSR for news, funding opportunities, scientific highlights, upcoming webinars, research resources, and more.

Share Opportunities with Friends of BSR Listserv
If you would like to share upcoming webinars, calls for proposals, or other relevant content on this listserv, please contact NIA BSR Comms, providing a brief summary of the request and links to include.

SEEKING RESEARCHER INPUT!

Request for Information: Developing Consent Language for Future Use of Data and Biospecimens
NIH is establishing a new resource, entitled Consent for Data and Biospecimen Sharing for Future Use: Points to Consider and Sample Language, which is meant to provide some starting language that can be used and modified as appropriate by the community as they design consent forms for studies that incorporate data and biospecimen sharing. In order to seek broader community input on the resource, we released an RFI and we are hoping for a robust response to make the resource as useful as possible. We would certainly appreciate any feedback you and your stakeholders may have. The sample consent language can be found on NOT-OD-21-131. Provide your input via online comment form until September 29th.