

Fiscal Year 2005 (FY05) Department of Defense (DoD) Joint Science and Technology Office for Chemical and Biological Defense (JSTO-CBD) Medical Chemical and Biological Defense Research Program (MCBDRP) Supplement to the Broad Agency Announcement (BAA) 02-1.

The JSTO-CBD, Defense Threat Reduction Agency, is soliciting proposals for participation in an extramural research program. All extramural efforts must be able to integrate with intramural MCBDRP research efforts conducted by the Department of Defense (DoD). Thus, collaborative efforts with a DoD lab is strongly encouraged. The contract period of performance will be one to two years. The total amount of funds available for this program is \$5 M. The awards are expected to be less than or equal to \$1M each (inclusive of direct and indirect costs). The funding provided is in Budget Activity 2 (BA2 or Applied Research) and Budget Activity 3 (BA3 or Advanced Technology Development). In general, these funds will be directed at pretreatments and medical countermeasures to chemical and biological threats, medical diagnostics and emerging threats. Proposals are being solicited from educational institutions, nonprofit organizations and private industry.

Research Proposal Topics: The JSTO-CBD is seeking proposals for research in a variety of areas including:

1. Pretreatments: Proposals are being solicited in the areas of human response to vaccination against biothreat agent antigens (e.g., epitope mapping studies).

2. Diagnostic Technology:

a. Proposals are being solicited in the areas of diagnostic platform development and integration and identification of novel host response and agent-specific markers (proteomics and genomics).

b. Proposals are being solicited for novel analytic procedures for chemical warfare agent detection/diagnosis (e.g., acetylcholinesterase) and definitive analytical procedures.

3. Medical Countermeasures (Therapeutics):

a. Proposals are being solicited in the areas of development and testing of fully human monoclonal antibodies against biothreat agents.

b. Proposals are being solicited for broad spectrum treatment for chemical threat agents.

4. Emerging Threats: Proposals are being solicited in the areas of genetically engineered treats, particularly high through-put analysis of genomic sequences for rapid analysis of biothreat agent genomes.

Application Materials and Procedures: Proposals will be assessed for balance with ongoing DoD research. Investigators are expected to survey the peer-reviewed literature to support their proposals to avoid duplication of previous research efforts, including those previously supported by the DoD and/or its investigators. An additional source of previously accomplished research supported by the DoD can be found on the Defense Technical Information Center web site at <http://www.dtic.mil> using the Science and Technical Documents Search. It is anticipated that no individual award will be more than \$1M (inclusive of direct and indirect costs), with a maximum period of performance of 2 years. Reasonableness of budget for the proposed research is a component of the peer review evaluation process.

Proposals: Proposals must be received by 2:00 p.m. on April 8, 2004 to be eligible for consideration. The proposal template and instructions for completion are available in the USAMRMC Broad Agency Announcement (BAA) 02-1 on the Internet at <http://www.usamraa.army.mil> and can be submitted on a CD/DVD in PDF or Microsoft Office format and mailed to US Army Medical Research Acquisition Activity, DTRACB05 ATTN: MCMR-AAA, 820 Chandler Street, Fort Detrick, MD 21704-5014. The

CD/DVD must be labeled with the PIs name, phone no., email address and the organizations name, in case the disk is unreadable. Proposal Evaluation and Selection:

The proposal evaluation criteria listed below are specific to this announcement and take precedence over any evaluation criteria that are listed in BAA 02-1. The Joint Science and Technology Office for Chemical and Biological Defense will use a two-tiered review process for proposal evaluation, which consists of a scientific peer review and a programmatic review. The two tiers are fundamentally different.

1. The first tier is a scientific peer review of proposals against established criteria for determination of scientific merit. These reviews provide unbiased, expert advice on the scientific and technical merit of proposals, based upon the following review criteria: - research strategy and objectives, - impact, - PI and key personnel qualifications, - facilities, - budget. The peer review summary statement is a product of scientific peer review. Each statement includes the investigator's structured, technical abstract, the peer review score, and an evaluation of the project as assessed by the peer reviewers according to the above evaluation criteria. Summary statements are forwarded to the next stage of the review process, the programmatic review.

2. The second tier of review, the programmatic review, is conducted by a team of military scientists, researchers and other federal agency representatives. Panel members use the peer review summary statements to make funding recommendations. Programmatic review uses the following four criteria to make their recommendations: - peer review recommendations, - relevance of proposed research to military programs, - programmatic priorities, - portfolio balance. Scientifically sound proposals that best fulfill the above criteria and most effectively address the unique focus and goals of the CBDDP will be recommended for funding.

Proposal Compliance: Failure to adhere to deadlines specified within this supplement may result in proposal rejection. Contact RAD4@det.amedd.army.mil for additional technical information.