

c. **Synopsis.** Page 2, on the upper half, should be used for a synopsis in scientific language of the research project. It should include (1) objective or rationale for study (2) methods and (3) potential outcomes and implications. On the lower half of the same page, provide the Impact Statement in lay language, at a level suitable for the non-scientist/physician with a college background.

d. **Detailed description of proposed study.** The description should not exceed five pages. If funds are to support a specific component of a larger project, the component should be explained in detail, as well as how it relates to the larger project. Recommended subject headings include:

- (1) Purpose or Objectives, including background information, rationale for study and any preliminary results to support the proposal, if available;
- (2) Methods. Use language that will be comprehensible to experts in GBS but not necessarily familiar with the methodology; use only acronyms and abbreviations that are clearly explained or will be understood;
- (3) Data analysis: how the data will be analyzed and expected statistical or other methods that will be used;
- (4) Timeline for the project.

e. **Budget.** Funding is for the entire project or component of a project. The maximum allowable indirect cost is eight percent. No additional funds will be provided for overhead, indirect costs, etc. The budget should be itemized accordingly. If funding is sought for a component of a project, provide relevant information regarding funding for the rest of the project, including anticipated or known sources.

f. **Appendices.** The Appendix should list the following items, each on a separate page: 1) Bibliography; 2) Biosketch of the Principal Investigator(s); and 3) Job descriptions of each relevant staff member.

PROGRESS REPORT

The Principal Investigator shall provide a final report, in two versions, one at a scientific level and the other at a non-scientific level, to the Foundation's Executive Director, by April 15th. The final report should include plans, where applicable, to submit results of the research for peer reviewed publication and, as may be warranted, meeting presentation in abstract or poster form. The end date of the study period is one year from the date of the cover letter attached to the award check.

APPLICATION PROCESS SCHEDULE

All correspondences can be submitted either by regular mail or email.

Investigators invited to submit a full application should be aware of the following schedule for reviewing grants:

February 15

Deadline for receipt of full application

February 20

Distribution to GAR members

February 20-March 10

Review of applications

Week of March 10

Teleconference review of applications

Week three in April

Presentation by GAR to full Medical Advisory Board for voting, followed by notification to Board of Directors.

May 30

Announcement of awards



Guillain-Barré Syndrome

Chronic Inflammatory

Demyelinating Polyneuropathy

*Serving patients of GBS, CIDP and Variants
with support, education and research*

Research Grant Application Information

**Letters of intent and, if requested,
full proposals should be sent
as a PDF file to:
www.gbs-cidp.org**

GBS/CIDP Foundation International
The Holly Building
104 ½ Forrest Avenue
Narberth, PA 19072

Questions?

Call (610) 667-0131

INTRODUCTION

Guillain-Barré syndrome (acute inflammatory demyelinating polyneuropathy or Landry's ascending paralysis) is an acute or subacute symmetrically paralyzing disorder reflective of underlying demyelination and sometimes axonal damage of the peripheral nerves. Although rare, GBS and its chronic variants can be devastating, leading in some cases to respiratory failure and, rarely, to long term major disability. Eventually, most patients return to a normal or near normal lifestyle, but may endure a protracted recovery until they are again able to walk. The causes of and better treatments for GBS as well as other chronic variants, such as chronic inflammatory demyelinating polyradiculopathy (CIDP), are undergoing investigation. There is a role for multiple lines of research, including determination of better education methods for the medical and lay communities about these disorders, clarification of their pathogenesis, as well as development of better treatment options. Because of the likely autoimmune nature of the demyelinating polyneuropathies, improvement in the understanding of their pathogenesis and treatments may lead to better comprehension and care for other autoimmune disorders.

FUNDING SOURCES

As part of the GBS Foundation's mission to provide education and support research, we offer research grants to qualified applicants. Grants are made possible through the benevolence of many sources, including the Helen S. Manheimer Research Fund, contributions from individuals who have been personally touched by GBS or CIDP and by several commercial sources. Through the generosity of these contributors, to whom the Foundation is most grateful, we are able to offer a Research Grants Program. The GBS Foundation has world-wide representation, sharing resources with local support group chapters nationally and internationally. The Foundation's Medical Advisory Board includes many of the most respected clinicians and researchers in the field.

AREAS OF INTEREST

Foundation interests include GBS and its acute and chronic variants (Fisher syndrome, CIDP, multifocal motor neuropathy, etc.). Research interests cover a broad range of subjects including development of methods to more rapidly diagnosing these disorders, creation of educational and communication programs to inform patients and families of the Foundation's availability, identification of specific epitopes and microbial serotypes involved in the pathogenesis of this family of disorders and development of more effective treatments will limit the disease process, prevent complications and reduce long-term adverse sequelae.

GRANT AMOUNTS

Currently, the Foundation offers two grants, one up to \$60,000 and the other up to \$40,000. These awards are expected to be available at least through 2010. The application request may be utilized to apply for funding a project in its entirety or part of a research project. If the application is to fund part of a project then the component to be funded by the Foundation should be clearly delineated with respect to the total research activity.

Proposals may address any aspect of GBS, CIDP or a variant. We do accept requests from international sources. For example, prior Foundation grants have provided seed funds to support Federal (US government) agency publications for a GBS conference and another to enable the shipping of patient specimens for serotyping to specialty laboratories within the European scientific community. We encourage all interested parties to submit applications. Even if not funded, we express our sincerest thanks to the entire GBS research community for efforts on behalf of our patients.

APPLICATION GUIDELINES

Grants are supplied for a period of one year. The application process utilizes two steps more fully described below. Initially a letter of intent is requested that summarizes the research plan. If the applicant is thereafter notified, a complete application is then requested. In keeping with guidelines of the Foundation's Board of Directors

and Grant Application Review (GAR) Committee, applications are not accepted from members of this committee or their immediate associates. Foundation Medical Advisory Board members who are not on the GAR Committee are permitted and invited to submit an application.

DETAILS OF THE APPLICATION PROCEDURE

Letter of Intent

Applicants should submit a one page Letter of Intent by November 1. The Letter should contain the following information: title of the project, name and title of investigator(s) along with their contact information (department and institution name, address, phone number, and email address) and a synopsis of the proposal not to exceed 300 words. The letter should be typed in 12 point, Times Roman font, with 1" margins. A PDF file may be submitted to the organization by email. Receipt of the letter will be acknowledged by email. Notification by email to submit or not submit a full application will be made by December 10.

The Complete Application

If notification to submit a full application is received, the following structure should be followed.

- a. **Format.** The application should be typed, double spaced, on 8 1/2 x 11" paper with no less than a 1" border. Typing should be on one side only, in 12 point Times Roman font. Submit a PDF of the proposal to www.gbs-cidp.org. The top of each page should contain, on one line, the principal investigator's first initial and last name, and an abbreviated title of the project. Pages should be numbered sequentially at the lower right corner.
- b. **Cover Page.** This should list the principal investigator(s) and title(s), organization affiliation(s), tax exempt number if applicable, and contact name, address, telephone and fax numbers and e-mail address and title of the research project. If funding is sought for a component of a research project, list the project and that part for which funding is sought.