

Columbia-NYU-Takeda Alliance

Request for Proposals

Columbia University, New York University, and Takeda Pharmaceuticals have formed a collaborative research alliance to initiate and advance gastroenterology (GI) research programs with high potential to impact the development of new therapeutics for patients with GI disorders.

[Takeda](#) is a global, value-based, R&D-driven biopharmaceutical leader headquartered in Japan, committed to bringing Better Health and a Brighter Future to patients by translating science into highly-innovative medicines. Takeda has its GI research laboratories in San Diego, California, and Cambridge Massachusetts.

Our strategic collaboration is aimed at leveraging both the research & development capabilities and funding opportunities offered by Takeda to bridge the translational and commercial gaps of the respective Universities' early stage technologies. Takeda is seeking projects that are aligned to the GI Drug Discovery Unit's discovery and translation strategies, and also forward-looking high-risk innovative concepts. **This cycle of the Alliance has a particular thematic focus on GI Inflammation and neuroinflammation; motility and modulating enteric nervous system biology; and liver.**

We are issuing this Request for Proposals to advance sponsored research for 2021, the second year in the Alliance. The award decisions will be made by a Joint Research Committee comprised of research leaders from Columbia, NYU, and Takeda.

This application is open to all Columbia and NYU faculty, early-career faculty are encouraged to apply.

The application process and funding framework is as follows:

- **Letter of Intent (LOI)**
A non-confidential level LOI submitted by February 22nd, 2021 Submissions will be collected here: <https://takedaalliance.formstack.com/forms/columbia2021> (all information will be encrypted and held confidential). Selected applicants will be invited to submit Full Proposals. Please speak with your Licensing Manager prior to submission.
- **Funding**
\$75,000 in direct costs for a ~1 year Pilot Project. Final budgets will be determined at the Full Proposal phase based on project needs.

Application Timeline:

Event	Date
Request for Proposals open	January, 2021
Letter of Intent submissions close	February 22 nd , 2021
Notification of selected investigators to submit Full Proposal	Mid April
Full Proposal submission close	Late May 2021
Award notification (subject to mutually acceptable project plan & budget)	July 2021
Project launch	July 2021

For More Information, please contact:

Academic Alliance Manager: Mitchell Fullerton mf3399@columbia.edu

Takeda Alliance Manager: Adna Halilovic adna.halilovic@takeda.com

RFP Strategic Areas of Interest:

The GI Drug Discovery Unit is focused on a subset of target areas



Gut Inflammation

- IBD (Crohn's Disease, Ulcerative Colitis)
- Barrier integrity and mucosal healing, and neuroinflammation
- Celiac Disease (moderate/severe and refractory)
- Targeting immune tolerance and effector cells in the epithelium
- Microbiome therapeutics (small/large molecules, consortia)



Motility Disorders

- Nausea and vomiting
- Enteric nervous system (ENS) cell therapy for enteric neuropathies
- Gastroparesis pathophysiology



Liver Disease

- Advanced/late-stage liver disease (F3, F4 NASH), anti-fibrosis drivers
- Hepatocyte rejuvenation, regeneration, replacement
- Rare and genetic linked diseases



Translational & Clinical

- Clinically meaningful targets, biomarkers, models, assays, endpoints
- Causal validation of targets, therapeutic modulation that recapitulates human biology
- Patient prognostic, diagnostic and stratification strategies



Other areas of interest

- Cell and gene therapy
- Access to patient samples and/or patient cohorts
- Drug delivery with specificity and selectivity