



Wiener Wissenschafts-, Forschungs- und Technologiefonds

Life Sciences Call 2011 „Linking Research and Patients’ Needs“ – Focus&Key Facts

With this call we want to encourage scientific projects linking research and patients’ needs. This means that the funding focus of WWTF concentrates on **strengthening linkages between outstanding lab research and medical/clinical research**. Fostering cooperation between basic scientists and clinicians is regarded as a tremendous opportunity to strengthen Vienna’s life sciences cluster and to open up new avenues to develop novel patient oriented approaches. The overall budget for this call is 5 mio. €. The project call 2011 addresses Viennese Universities and non-university research institutions as well as scientists and researchers in Vienna.

WWTF provides funding for scientific projects which should:

- be hypothesis driven with anticipated results leading to better patient treatment and/or diagnosis and go beyond basic biomedical research,
- improve understanding of mechanisms leading to disease,
- expand current views and knowledge of patient targeted therapies, diagnoses and prevention of diseases,
- include a clear statement of the perspective for medium term medical plus societal and/or economic relevance,
- last two to four years and be in the range of € 200.000 to € 800.000 of requested funding.
- Projects from fields like biomedical engineering/ biomechanics are also invited to take part in this competition.

Please also consider the following Do’s and Don’ts:

- Access to patients must be available as needed for the project.
- Applicants should dedicate a considerable part of their time to the project (Hiring of additional staff with funding money in order to release the PI/ key researchers from daily clinical routine is permissible).
- No clinical trials focusing on classical drug development.
- No projects solely developing animal models.
- No industry involvement; no funding of industry.

Generally, applicants for funding as well as the submitted project proposals need to be characterized by **top scientific quality**. Beside the quality of the team and the suggested

approach, the jury process will include a judgement on the potential social and/ or economic relevance of the project. Additionally, as secondary criteria, WWTF wants to especially encourage **women** and **young researchers** to apply for funding and to act as principal investigators. This means that in case there are more top quality proposals than funding available, those top proposals with women and young researchers as principal investigators will be favoured. For the detailed criteria of evaluation – on which reviewers and a jury composed exclusively of scientists from abroad will base their assessment – kindly refer to the WWTF homepage.

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