

Toward Enhanced Understanding of the Biological Underpinnings and/or Consequences of Pediatric Feeding Disorder/Avoidant Restrictive Food Intake Disorder

PURPOSE: To stimulate new research projects, build new collaborations, and increase extramural funding for pediatric research. Proposals should be aimed towards generating preliminary data for subsequent extramural grant applications.

BACKGROUND: Pediatric feeding disorder (PFD) and the broader psychiatric diagnosis avoidant/restrictive food intake disorder (ARFID) represent severe disruptions in eating that result in negative health outcomes that include severe impacts on growth, nutritional status, and psychosocial functioning. Much remains unknown, however, about the cause, consequence, and remediation of severe feeding/eating disorders in pediatric population. This includes questions about contribution of neural circuitry, hormone functioning, gut microbiome, and/or reward processing in the emergence and/or maintenance of PFD/ARFID. This call for proposal seeks applications that investigate the potential biological underpinnings and/or medical consequences of restrictive eating in infants, young children, and/or adolescents. Priority will be given to applications involving a multidisciplinary team of investigators.

PROJECT PERIOD: Project period can be no more than 12 months

AMOUNT: Up to \$50,000 per award; up to 3 awards in the current cycle

REQUIREMENTS:

- The principal investigator(s) must hold an appointment at their institution(s) which allows them to serve as principal investigator on extramural grant applications.
- All applications must involve two or more investigators, at least one of whom:
 - Has a primary faculty appointment in the Emory Department of Pediatrics (DOP) OR
 - Is on the professional staff at Children's Healthcare of Atlanta (Children's). This includes those Emory faculty who are outside of the Emory DOP or employed by the Pediatric Institute and who are on Children's professional staff as well as all non-faculty clinicians on Children's professional staff.
- Faculty from GRA-affiliated institutions are encouraged to apply; however, a faculty appointment at a GRA-affiliated institution is not required.

Letters of Intent – Required and Due Friday, July 1, 2021 by 1:00 p.m.

LOIs may be a maximum of 2 pages, should be addressed to William Sharp, PhD (William.sharp@choa.org), and must include:

- Project title
- PI and key personnel
- Aims page
- Summary of project and methods (including hypotheses)

Investigators with projects selected to move forward will be required to submit a full application by August 15, 2021.

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Please direct questions regarding this funding announcement to William Sharp, PhD (william.sharp@choa.org).