



## 2018 Application Guidelines Clinical Sites to Support the Nursing Fellowship Research Project

### **“Symptom Burden, Health-Related Quality of Life and Health Care Utilization among Children Undergoing Hematopoietic Stem Cell Transplantation: Impact of Parent Sleep, Fatigue and Psychological Distress”**

Alex's Lemonade Stand Foundation offers a 2-year *Nurse Researcher Fellowship* grant to support early career nurse researchers as they plan and execute a multi-site research project. With guidance from experienced nurse research mentors, the fellowship recipient will develop a team that includes partnerships at other institutions to implement the multi-site study. Sites are now being recruited to support the funded project, “Symptom Burden, Health-Related Quality of Life and Health Care Utilization among Children Undergoing Hematopoietic Stem Cell Transplantation: Impact of Parent Sleep, Fatigue and Psychological Distress” (Children's Hospital Los Angeles, Dr. Jessica Ward, Principal Investigator).

*Project Summary:* Stem cell transplant is an intense treatment for stubborn childhood cancers that have returned or are not remedied with standard therapies. Although stem cell transplant can cure these cancers, it involves high doses of chemotherapy and/or radiation, and often leads to serious side effects and long periods of hospitalization. Children can experience distressing symptoms such as pain, nausea, fatigue, fear and depression. Parents provide essential care throughout the transplant process – often around-the-clock – by monitoring and treating symptoms, managing medications, and providing emotional support while meeting other parenting demands. Anxiety, depression and stress have been reported in parents of these children. Parents may also experience sleep disturbances and ensuing fatigue while caring for their children, although there is little known about this relationship. It is important for both physicians and nurses to understand if parents are struggling because these problems may influence their ability to provide the best care for their children. This study aims to describe the extent to which children's symptoms and quality of life are affected by parents' sleep disturbances, fatigue and emotional issues including stress, anxiety and depression. We know the health and well-being of parents are crucial to successful outcomes for their children, but have questions that remain to be answered. We expect this study to help us identify root problems, and begin to design new solutions. It is our hope that study results influence the way healthcare teams support and care for children (and their parents) throughout this complex and challenging process.

*Interested in participating as a site?*

#### Application Highlights:

- ✓ A Co-Investigator at collaborative sites does not need to have prior research experience, but must have:
  - Earned a Master's or Ph.D. in Nursing.
  - At least five years of Pediatric Hematology/Oncology Nursing experience.
- ✓ A study site can have more than one nurse listed in the application, but one must be named as the lead Co-Investigator for the study site.
- ✓ A budget does not need to be submitted with the application. The Fellow and mentors will work with the site to develop a budget once the site has been selected.
- ✓ Applications will be submitted through the link below. Please complete the brief application process by following the link [here](#).
- ✓ Selected site(s) will be sub-contractors to the Fellow's institution.

## Application Deadline: January 31, 2018 (11:59 PM ET).

### Site Application Process:

#### I. Online Form

##### A. Contact information

In the online form, the applicant will be asked for basic contact information for themselves and their institution. An additional Co-Investigator at the study site may be included. The primary supervisor responsible for giving approval for the study to be performed at your institution should be listed. The information below should be provided in a PDF document attached to the application form.

#### II. Narrative Application Outline

Below is an outline for the *Clinical Site Application* to support the funded fellowship project. All sections should be combined into one PDF (max 10 MB).

##### **1. Interest in participating as a clinical research site for the funded project. (½ page)**

Why are you interested in being selected for this project? Please address how your research interests and career development needs are aligned with the focus of the project.

##### **2. Prior experience with nursing research projects. (½ page)**

List individuals at your site who will be involved with the research project, their roles, and briefly describe their research experience (if any).

A. What research projects have they been involved in, and what were their roles?

- Provide Principal Investigator name, project, funding source, years.
- List any relevant publications or presentations resulting from the project(s).

B. If no specific prior research experience, describe any other relevant experience or coursework.

##### **3. Discuss any qualities you and/or your team have that should be considered in our decision on research sites for the fellowship project. What would enable you to be an effective partner site in this project? (1 paragraph)**

##### **4. Discuss or list your institution's characteristics with regard to pediatric oncology: (½ page)**

a. How many pediatric hematology/oncology patients does your institution treat each year?

- inpatient
- outpatient

b. How many patients do you project that you could recruit and enroll for this study?

c. Provide information on any institutional pediatric oncology specialties or areas of focus.

##### **5. Discuss any prior experience with, as well as the procedure for, obtaining IRB approval for research proposals at your institution. (1 paragraph)**

##### **6. Include Biosketches of nurses listed on this application. (Use NIH short format.)**

- 7. Letter of support** – A letter from the immediate supervisor must be included, to acknowledge awareness of the project as well as commitment to protecting the applicant’s time for research activities. Details of additional mentoring and any other support/resources should also be provided.
- 8. Budget needs or requirements** (optional) – If known/applicable, provide a brief description or any information you may have about research project restrictions or requirements from your institution (staffing, etc.) that may impact the project budget.

**Questions? Contact:**

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