



# RESEARCH FLASH

NOVEMBER, 2014

## NEWSWORTHY FROM NIH

### NEW WAY TO SEARCH FOR RESEARCH SUPPORTED BY FEDERAL FUNDERS

NIH RePORTER is your first stop on the way to finding information about NIH funded research, as well as data on trends in NIH funding and the biomedical workforce. But did you know NIH is collaborating with other agencies to create [Federal RePORTER](#), a single web portal that allows you to search federal-funded science projects across multiple agencies? While the site is still in alpha testing, we've recently added a new partner agency's data, so I thought it would be a great time to introduce you to this resource.

The project is part of the [STAR METRICS®](#) program and supports the program's goal of linking the federal government's scientific research investments to outcomes and outputs (e.g., patents, citations, workforce outcomes). A fed-wide database would allow us, and the public, to see the impact of funding, and be a great collaborative tool to find investigators working in similar areas, find reviewers, and see scientific advances in specific fields across agencies. We also believe it will serve as a centralized research resource that will facilitate scientific study of the federal government's investments in research. You'll see a familiar search interface if you've ever run a search on NIH RePORTER (or [projectreporter.nih.gov](http://projectreporter.nih.gov)). While RePORTER includes all NIH-funded research, and research projects from other organizations that currently use our [electronic Research Administration](#) (or eRA) systems, [Federal RePORTER](#) includes those agencies and several more. The database includes research projects funded by several Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) operating divisions (NIH, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, FDA, etc.).

## NEWSWORTHY FROM A SMALL PLAYER IN THE EBOLA VACCINE EFFORT

In the race to develop an Ebola vaccine, Science Reporter recently discussed a small company that is in the shadow of pharmaceutical giant GlaxoSmithKline (GSK), namely, NewLink Genetics. Each company is engaged in small, early-stage Ebola vaccine trials. GSK's efforts have received extensive media attention, and, with its substantial manufacturing capacity and experience, the U.K.-based company is widely assumed to be in the lead. In contrast, NewLink, a cancer drug company based in Ames, Iowa, with 120 employees, has until recently avoided media coverage and drawn criticism for delaying the launch of its studies. Science Reporter says "... a different picture emerged after NewLink broke its media silence following a high-level meeting on Ebola vaccines held by the World Health Organization on 23 October. At the meeting, NewLink executives said that, under a best-case scenario, the company might have 12 million doses of vaccine by April. That number would far outstrip GSK's estimate of 230,000 doses by that date. But there are many caveats. If NewLink's vaccine requires a high dose to be effective, far fewer people could be immunized. And NewLink's vaccine, which combines an Ebola gene with a weakened vesicular stomatitis virus (VSV), a livestock pathogen, poses unique risks." <http://news.sciencemag.org/health/2014/10/ebola-vaccine-underdog>

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## FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES



Weekly NIH funding opportunities: <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/WeeklyIndex.cfm>

The NIH posted a new Funding Opportunity Announcement focused on "Opportunities for Collaborative Research at the NIH Clinical Center." Twelve NIH institutes are participating in this cooperative agreement (U1) program, along with two NIH director's offices. The FOA details the specific research priorities of the program. Extramural investigators must have a collaborating investigator in the NIH intramural research program to be eligible.

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-13-029.html>

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Information on hundreds of non-federal sources of grant and fellowship support is available on the URL below. This is provided, with permission, by the Albert Einstein College of Medicine.

<http://www.einstein.yu.edu/administration/grant-support/funding-opportunities.aspx>

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Proposal CENTRAL is an e-grantmaking website shared by many government, non-profit, and private grant-making organizations. <https://proposalcentral.altum.com/>



Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI) issued a funding announcement under its Pragmatic Clinical Studies initiative, offering up to \$90 million in support of studies that address practical comparative questions faced by patients, clinicians, and other healthcare decision makers.

<http://www.pcori.org/2014/pcori-offers-up-to-90-million-in-funding-in-third-call-for-large-pragmatic-studies-proposals/>

**PLEASE FEEL FREE TO CONTACT DOWNSTATE'S PRE-AWARD  
DIVISION IF YOU WOULD LIKE THEIR HELP IN IDENTIFYING  
FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES TAILORED TO YOUR NEEDS.**

And finally...

"I am not a scientist" has emerged as a common response from politicians who have been asked their views on science-oriented policy questions that they would prefer not to answer for political expedience, according to a commentary published in *Slate* magazine. The author, who notes that he is, in fact, a scientist, suggests that people who say "I am not a scientist" under these circumstances perhaps should not be politicians either.

<http://ow.ly/DbENi>

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