Allergan – Call for Grants Notification

Issue Date: April 6, 2018

Therapeutic Area: Irritable Bowel Syndrome (IBS)/Chronic Idiopathic Constipation (CIC)

Purpose: Allergan is interested in providing grant support for independent continuing education of healthcare professionals in the United States who treat patients with IBS-C/IBS-D/CIC. This Call for Grants (CFG) notification provides public notice of the availability of funds in a general topic area for activities for which recognized scientific or educational needs exist.

Allergan Medical Education is committed to supporting independent educational activities in specific therapeutic areas that foster increased understanding of scientific, clinical or healthcare issues, and that serve to improve patient care. Approval of grant funding is never related to or conditioned upon past prescriptions or purchases of Allergan products. Furthermore, Allergan does not offer or provide educational grants to encourage or to reward the prescription, purchase, ordering, or recommending of Allergan products.

Intended Audience
- Gastroenterologists, PCPs, NPs, PAs, Pharmacists, GYNs

Activity Design

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<th>Submission Timeframe</th>
<th>April 7, 2018 – June 15, 2018</th>
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<tr>
<td>Proposal</td>
<td>Podcast Series (a sequence of downloadable digital audio files or recordings)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Program Format</td>
<td>Accredited podcasts</td>
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<tr>
<td>Maximum Allergan Contribution</td>
<td>≤$100,000</td>
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☐ Sole Support  ☐ Multi-Support  ☐ No Preference

Submission Instructions
- Submit applications through Allergan’s Grant Management website at www.allerganmededgrants.com.
- If submitting a multi-support application, Allergan recommends additional documentation identifying your organization’s plan of action in the event only partial funding is received for the program.

When submitting the application, please ensure the following are completed:
1. Select Irritable Bowel Syndrome – CFG ONLY as the therapeutic area
2. Include the following, “CFG IBS 39,” in the program title of the grant application
3. Complete all sections of the grant application
4. Upload all documents requested by the system

Eligibility Criteria
- Applicants must be US-based, registered on Allergan’s Grant Management website at www.allerganmededgrants.com, and in good standing and accredited to provide CME/CE by an official accrediting agency (e.g. ACCME, AOA, AAFP, AMA, ADA CERP, ANCC, ACPE, etc.).

Educational Needs
Irritable bowel syndrome (IBS) and chronic idiopathic constipation (CIC) are functional gastrointestinal disorders with unknown etiology that affect 5–15% and 11% of the general population, respectively. IBS is characterized by a variety of abdominal and bowel symptoms which can include pain, bloating, constipation (IBS-C), or diarrhea (IBS-D). Although IBS and CIC are often considered separate and discrete disorders, significant overlap exists, and they should be thought of as existing on a continuum, rather than in isolation.

A recent survey conducted by the American Gastroenterological Association (AGA) reported that it takes patients
an average of four years to be diagnosed with IBS, with three-quarters of those with IBS symptoms trying an average of 3.6 OTC products before talking to a healthcare provider about their symptoms. More than 80% of those with IBS symptoms were proactive in bringing up IBS symptoms with their healthcare provider; however, the majority of those patients who had not sought treatment for gastrointestinal (GI) symptoms reported that their doctor had not asked about GI symptoms or regularity during an annual check-up. Additionally, when asked how well patients felt their HCP understood how bothersome their symptoms were, only about half felt that it was very well or extremely well.4

A patient-centered approach with an emphasis on effective communication between clinicians and patients has been recommended for management of functional bowel diseases such as IBS and CIC and has been associated with improved outcomes, increased patient satisfaction, and decreased utilization of care.5 Physician practice patterns and attitudes related to IBS have been investigated by several research groups, one of which found that the majority (72%) of general practitioners surveyed approach the diagnosis of IBS through a process of exclusion and often order uninformative or unnecessary diagnostic tests, despite diagnostic guidelines that recommend that such tests are not necessary in the absence of alarm features.6

We request that educational providers independently assess whether an educational need exists to improve communication, diagnosis, and management of patients with IBS or CIC. Requestors should be able to explain the latest disease state understandings and the state of unmet needs concerning current treatments for this disease.

Proposed and implemented educational activities must be fully compliant with all applicable accrediting organization and industry standards, guidelines, and requirements as they apply to the conduct of independent medical education. If an accredited provider chooses to submit an educational grant request in response to this CFG, a complete and independent needs assessment including identified barriers to patient care, must be provided with the grant application.

Outcomes Measurement
Applications should include a detailed plan to provide quantitative evidence to show that the educational initiative had impact on healthcare provider knowledge, competence, and/or performance outcomes (Moore level 3 - 5).7 The proposal should include pre- and post-educational assessments or a comparison to a control group who has not been exposed to the intervention. A description of the methodology used to evaluate the reach and quality of the activity should be provided.

Deadline for Submission of Application
June 15, 2018

Decision Date and Notification
You will receive an acknowledgement email once the Allergan Medical Education Department has reviewed your completed grant application, approximately the third week of July 2018. If your request is approved, the response will be accompanied by a Letter of Agreement, which must be signed and returned to the Allergan Medical Education Department. Please do not consider any request approved until you have received written documentation from the Allergan Medical Education Department stating that your grant request has been approved.

Terms and Conditions
We reserve the right to approve or deny any or all applications received as a result of this request or to cancel, in part or in its entirety, this CFG. Allergan and Ironwood are not responsible for any costs associated with a CFG application.

Transparency
Call for Grants applications will be jointly reviewed and funded by Ironwood Pharmaceuticals. The Allergan grant approval process is in full accordance with the recommendations and the guidance of the Office of Inspector
General (OIG), Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America (PhRMA), Advanced Medical Technology Association (AdvaMed), the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME), “National Physician Payment Transparency Program: OPEN PAYMENTS” commonly known as the “Sunshine Act,” and internal Allergan Compliance policies.

Allergan, at its sole discretion, has the right to disclose the details of funded independent medical education activities, including those that may be required by federal, state, and/or local laws and regulations. This disclosure may include, but shall not be limited to, details of the activity and the grant amount.

References