Massachusetts General Hospital
Department of Medicine Innovation Program (MIP)
Innovation Pilot Grant 2021-2022
Request for Applications
Due: October 12, 2021

I. **Key Dates**
RFA Announcement: September 1, 2021
Office Hours: September 15, 2021 & October 5, 2021
Applications Due: October 12, 2021
Finalist Presentations: November 2021
Winners Announced: Winter 2021
Anticipated Funding Start Date: Early Spring 2022

II. **Award Amount**
Applicants may request funding for direct costs of up to $75,000 depending on project need, scope, and deliverables. Budget justification for requested funding must be outlined at the time of application submission. At least two awards will be funded in 2021-2022. Depending on success, progress, deliverables, and significance, pilot projects may be eligible to apply for subsequent support.

III. **Overview**
Throughout the Department of Medicine, talented faculty are developing innovative, cost-effective technologies that have the potential to significantly impact patient care. The Medicine Innovation Program (MIP) was launched in 2015 and is charged with accelerating the development and introduction of broadly applicable innovative ideas and cost-effective technologies into the patient/provider community both within and outside of the MGH community. Over the past six years, MIP has provided seed funding to a diverse portfolio of projects in the artificial intelligence and digital health spaces, as well as to the development of novel therapeutics and medical devices.

IV. **Eligibility**
The primary PI must have an appointment in the Department of Medicine. MIP works closely with chosen PI(s) to advance their work through mutually agreed upon timelines and deliverables established at the start of the program. The winning project(s) will be expected to report on their progress to MIP leadership and the advisory board. The expected tenure of a project in the Medicine Innovation Program is 12-18 months. Previous applicants who have made significant progress are also encouraged to apply. Pre-existing proof of concept data is not required for a successful application.

V. **Project Categories**
Projects must demonstrate a new way of thinking about an existing challenge that falls within one of the following four categories:

a. **Technology and Equity:** Technologies that directly address issues of healthcare inequity via promoting access, improving quality, or creating enabling tools for communities at risk.
b. **General Innovation:** Any project that has the potential to transform the way we deliver patient care. The project may be a drug that is under development, a medical device, research application, digital/IT application or process.
c. **Digital Health:** This path seeks to support ideas that will apply modern digital technologies to improve an aspect of healthcare. Digital health tools include (but are not limited to) the web, mobile devices and applications, patient facing devices used in the home, data analytics and wearables. In addition to building novel technology, applications that augment existing technologies to meet an unmet need are encouraged to apply.
d. **AI in Medicine:** Projects which explore opportunities to further enhance physician effectiveness, patient diagnosis/treatment or reduction of physician administrative burden via enhanced decision support/artificial intelligence.

Examples of prior winning applications include:
- Early toxicology and efficacy studies for the development of a first in class therapy for osteoporosis
- Creation of a digital therapeutic for support of patients with Acute Myeloid Leukemia
- Using natural language processing in the evaluation and diagnosis of Irritable Bowel Syndrome

Our full portfolio of projects is available on our [website](), and more information can be found on the attached MIP Report.

VI. Application Materials

Please assemble application by section and order as outlined below adhering to a 4 page (maximum) application (12 point Times New Roman font with 0.5 inch margins). Must include the following sections:
1. Project title
2. Project domain (may choose more than one): technology and equity, general innovation, digital health, or artificial intelligence
3. Project leader and contact information
4. Team members
   a. If applicable, please explain the roles and responsibilities of each team member
5. Abstract (200 word maximum; understandable to general audience)
6. Background and significance
7. Specific aims and deliverable(s) for 12-month project period
8. Preliminary results (if applicable)
9. Timeline, milestones
10. Intellectual property (if applicable)
11. Budget
12. Current institutional, grant or private industry support for project (if applicable)
13. If successful, describe next steps in development plan

VII.   Review Process

Applications should be submitted in full by 5:00pm on October 12, 2021. All applications will be reviewed by members of the MIP Advisory Board and finalists will be invited to present their project in person to the group. The winning project(s) will be announced in Winter 2021.

Applications must be submitted electronically as a <u>single PDF</u> document to this <u>Dropbox</u> folder.

For more information about the Medicine Innovation Program please contact:

Christiana Iyasere, MD, MBA
Director, MGH DOM Innovation Program
CIYASERE@mgh.harvard.edu

Michelle Tagerman, MS, MPH
Project Manager, MGH DOM Innovation Program
Mtagerman1@mgh.harvard.edu

Have questions or want to learn more about the MIP Innovation Grants? Email Michelle Tagerman (mtagerman1@mgh.harvard.edu) to schedule a 15-minute informational session on the following dates:

1. Wednesday, September 15th, 4-5:30pm; In person (DOM, Gray Bigelow Suite 730, Bazari Conference Room [Room 735]) or Virtual

2. Tuesday, October 5th, 5-6pm, Virtual Only