Gilead Sciences Medical Affairs Requests for Proposals:
CARING 2024 Program
Chinese **A**ntifungal **R**esearch **IN** Partnership with **G**ilead

Through the Medical Affairs Phase 4 Investigator-Sponsored Research (ISR) and Collaborative Program, Gilead Sciences (Gilead) supports the research efforts of academic institutions, clinical investigators, and research networks to evaluate the best approaches for invasive fungal infections (IFIs).

IFIs are a leading cause of morbidity and mortality worldwide. Recent estimates suggest an annual incidence of 6.5 million IFIs and 3.8 million deaths worldwide, of which about 2.5 million were directly attributable.[1]

A 2020 literature review estimated that 71.3 million persons suffer from a fungal disease in China. A total of 2.4% of the population is affected (excluding onychomycosis); the prevalence range is 1.6%–3.6%. New host populations, new endemic patterns, and high fungal burdens in China, which caused a huge impact on public health, underscore the urgent need for building diagnostic and therapeutic capacity. [2]

With the 2023 approval of AmBisome* (Amphotericin B Liposome for Injection) in China, it is critical to gather scientific data around the incidence, identification, and management of IFIs in Chinese patients. Gilead is making a specific request for research study proposals in China within the disease area of IFIs.

Through the CARING Request for Proposals (RFP) 2024 Program, Gilead will evaluate and potentially support research proposals which address one or more of the following topic areas:

1. Safety and efficacy of antifungals with a focus on but not exclusive to liposomal amphotericin B

- Hematologic malignancies or disease
- Nebulized liposomal amphotericin B therapy
- Cryptococcal meningitis data, building upon but not replicating the Jarvis et al. NEJM study
- Outcomes associated with early treatment
- Intermittent dosing in the prophylaxis setting or as maintenance therapy
- Outcomes associated with empirical (early) treatment
- Mucormycosis
- Talaromycosis
- Liposomal amphotericin B in breakthrough invasive fungal infections
- Intensive care unit patients
- Renally-impaired patients
- Hepatically-impaired patients
- Post-transplant patients

2. Antifungal resistance

3. Treatment strategies

- Timing of treatment for IFIs
- Novel dosing strategies

4. Epidemiology of invasive fungal disease

- Registry data
- ICU
- Hematology

5. Risk evaluation

- Hepatic dysfunction – studies that clarify safety of azoles
- Renal dysfunction – studies that clarify safety of liposomal amphotericin B
- Other special populations, such as post-transplant

Gilead supports these studies based on the validity of the scientific question proposed to be addressed, and whether the results will fill a data gap in clinical research and not duplicate previous studies/data that are already available. Both ISR study proposals and collaborative research study proposals (developed in conjunction with Gilead) will be considered.

Please discuss other research topics not listed above with your local Gilead Medical Scientist.

Application Criteria

- Concept must be specifically for research done in China. Questions can be directed to CARING@gilead.com
- Research proposals should include:
    - Clear scientific objectives, endpoints, and defined timelines based on scientific hypotheses;
    - Appropriate, defined, and specific data collection/evaluation methods;
    - Scalability and sustainability of the program after funding completion (when applicable);
    - Feasibility of completion of the project within 18 months, followed by rapid data dissemination and presentation of results;
    - Highlight generalizability to other practice settings

Awards shall be for research purposes only. Requests that include routine medical care or other costs associated with routine medical care will not be considered.

As the study sponsor, the principal investigator will be responsible for compliance with all laws and regulations applicable to research sponsors, including satisfying local requirements and obtaining all necessary regulatory approvals prior to beginning the study.

Submission Deadlines and Application Process

Stage 1: Concept Submission

To apply for consideration for funding under the CARING RFP Program, you will need to submit a concept that is no longer than two pages in a Word document, contains a concise overview of the proposed project, and includes the total estimated budget.

- **April 16, 2024**: Submission window opens
- **June 15, 2024 (23:59 CST)**: Submission window closes

Concepts must be submitted via the Gilead Optics online portal in the CARING concept section in order to be considered for this program.

Gilead will evaluate all concepts received within the submission window. After an initial concept review, invitations will be issued for selected applicants to submit a full proposal with a detailed budget.

Stage 2: Full Proposal Submission

Below are the timelines if invited for full proposal submission:

- **By July 16, 2024 (23:59 CST)**: Notice of concept outcome, with invitations for full proposal submission
- **By September 10, 2024 (23:59 CST)**: Deadline for submission of full proposal

Applications must be completed in Gilead Optics following invitations to submit full proposals.

Questions about the RFP or the application process can be submitted to your local Gilead Medical Scientist or CARING@gilead.com.

Budget Considerations
Gilead plans to award up to $1,000,000 USD in total funds allocated across these research proposals under the CARING RFP Program, dependent upon availability of funds and receipt of meritorious applications. Any proposal greater than $200,000 USD, inclusive of overhead costs and applicable taxes, should be discussed with your Gilead Medical Scientist prior to submission.

Review Process
Concepts will be rigorously reviewed by an internal Gilead committee. Each concept that meets program requirements and is complete will be assigned to multiple reviewers. Each reviewer will review and score the concept and will evaluate how well the proposal addresses the RFP, the potential impact of the study, the strength of the objectives/study design and sustainability/scalability of the methods under study. Scoring is based on the modified NIH Scoring Tool. High scoring concepts will be discussed by a multidisciplinary committee. Investigators with the top concept submissions will be offered the opportunity to submit a full proposal, which will be similarly reviewed.

No Guarantee of Funding
Gilead reserves the right to approve or decline any application at its sole discretion. Submission of a concept or a full proposal does not guarantee funding.

No Inducement or Reward
Gilead approval of awards does not take into account the past, present, or future volume or value of any business or referrals between the parties. Awards are not being given, directly or indirectly, as an inducement or reward with respect to the past or potential future purchase, utilization, recommendation, or formulary placement of any Gilead product. Furthermore, except for the use of the Gilead product in an approved award/research, the awardee is not required to purchase, order, recommend, or prescribe to any patients any products manufactured by or available through Gilead.

About Gilead Sciences
Gilead Sciences, Inc. is a biopharmaceutical company that discovers, develops and commercializes innovative therapeutics in areas of unmet medical need. The company's mission is to advance the care of patients suffering from life-threatening diseases worldwide. Gilead has operations in more than 30 countries worldwide, with headquarters in Foster City, California.

**AmBisome® is indicated in adults and children aged 1 month to 18 years old:*

1) *for the treatment of* systemic mycotic infections *due to organisms susceptible to this anti-infective, such as cryptococcosis, North American blastomycosis, disseminated candidiasis, coccidioidomycosis, aspergillosis, histoplasmosis, mucormycosis and in the treatment of some cases of American mucocutaneous leishmaniasis.*
2) *for the treatment of* fever of unknown origin (FUO) *in neutropenic patients. It is highly indicative for a systemic fungal infection in this patient population. Before initiating AmBisome® treatment, common viral, parasitic or mycobacterial infections should also be excluded as far as possible as causes for the observed FUO.*
3) *as the primary therapy of* visceral leishmaniasis *in immunocompetent patients including both adults and children. In immunocompromised patients (e.g. HIV positive) AmBisome® is also indicated as the primary therapy of visceral leishmaniasis,relapse rates were high following initial clearance of parasites.*

This drug should not be used to treat the common clinically inapparent forms of fungal disease which show only positive skin or serologic tests.

More information about AmBisome can be found on the China Drug Evaluation Center website.

References
1. Denning DW. Global incidence and mortality of severe fungal disease. *Lancet Infect Dis*. 2024 Jan 12:S1473-3099(23)00692-8.

2. Zhou L-H et al. Emerg Infect Dis. 2020 Risk-Based Estimate of Human Fungal Disease Burden, China.