CSL Research Acceleration Initiative

Applications close 27th February 2024

CSL is a leading global biotech company that develops and delivers innovative biotherapies to help people living with life-threatening medical conditions live full lives.

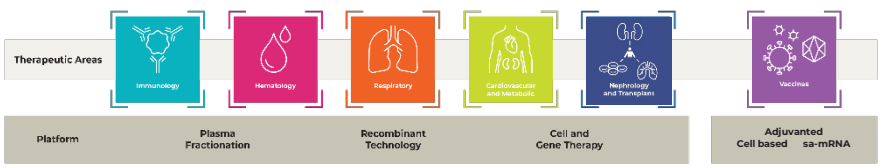
CSL's **Research Acceleration Initiative** aims to fast-track discovery of innovative biotherapies through partnerships between CSL and global research organizations.

Successful applicants will receive funding of up to $400,000 USD over 2 years.

Interested researchers are invited to:

- **Attend information webinars** to learn more about the initiative:
  23rd January 10:00 am CET **OR** 24th January 16:00 pm CET
- **Contact** Naja Nyffenegger at naja.nyffenegger@viforpharma.com to express interest in applying and to obtain online application submission instructions. For questions related to IP and confidentiality, please reach out to your Unitectra contact (or mail@unitectra.ch if you don't have a contact yet).
- **Submit** a non-confidential, 300 word abstract via the CSL online application portal by **27th February 2024.**

The 2024 Research Acceleration Initiative will focus on research proposals that align with a CSL **Therapeutic Area** and are amenable to or include a **Platform** as illustrated below. Please see over page for specific **Focus Areas**.



WHY COLLABORATE WITH CSL?

Funding
of up to $400,000 USD over 2 years

Access global capabilities and expertise
CSL scientific champion assigned to provide industry guidance and help you leverage our global capabilities

Publish with CSL
200+ publications with our collaborators since 2020

Accelerate
Translation of your research into new therapies.

For webinar invitations and online application instructions please email
Naja Nyffenegger at **naja.nyffenegger@viforpharma.com**

CSL Research Acceleration Initiative

Focus Areas

CSL is seeking applications that align with a CSL **Therapeutic Area** and are amenable to or include a CSL **Platform** in the following **Focus Areas**:

IMMUNOLOGY

Novel targets or best-in-class biologic therapeutics addressing:

1. B cell and plasma cell depletion or inhibition
2. T cell modulation, immune checkpoint agonism or co-stimulatory antagonism, Regulatory T cell stimulation or Tolerance
3. Modulation of cytokines, chemokines and immune super family members (e.g. TNF, IL-1), particularly approaches enabling multi-pathway inhibition
4. Depletion/modulation of innate immune effector cells

Autoimmune diseases:

Inflammatory Idiopathic Myopathies including Dermatomyositis, Primary Sjögren's Syndrome, Pemphigus Vulgaris, Bullous Pemphigoid, Small Fiber Neuropathy, ANCA-Associated Vasculitis and Autoimmune Hepatitis

Not of interest:

Target discovery campaigns or platforms, intracellular targets, complement inhibition

HEMATOLOGY

Acute hemorrhage control and hemorrhagic stroke

1. Novel biologic therapies to treat and prevent acute hemorrhage (e.g. intracerebral hemorrhage (ICH), reversal of anti-coagulation/anti-platelet associated bleeding)
2. Novel biologic targets and therapies for the treatment of secondary brain injury in subarachnoid hemorrhage and ICH
3. Omics approaches for patient stratification and drug discovery

Acute thrombotic conditions (macro- and micro-circulation)

1. Novel biologic therapies for targeted fibrinolysis/thrombolysis in acute thrombosis (ischemic stroke, pulmonary embolism)
2. Novel biologic therapies to treat and prevent microvascular thrombosis and endotheliopathies (e.g. thrombotic micro angiopathies, anti phospholipid syndrome and disseminated intravascular coagulation)

Benign hematology adjacencies

1. Novel biologic therapies for the treatment of anemias
2. Novel biologic therapies to treat bone marrow disorders

ORAL DELIVERY

Technologies enabling oral delivery of biologics (e.g. antibodies and other protein therapeutics)

CARDIOVASCULAR AND METABOLIC

Atherosclerotic plaque stabilization in high-risk patient groups

Novel targets or biologic therapies to prevent atherosclerotic plaque rupture/erosion and Major Adverse Cardiovascular Events (MACE)

Rare lipid disorders

Novel targets or biologic therapies (including gene therapies) for rare /severe lipid disorders e.g. homozygous familial hypercholesterolemia, hypertriglyceridemia

Myocarditis

Novel targets or biologic therapies for immune checkpoint inhibitor myocarditis
Biomarker approaches for patient stratification

Inflammatory cardiomyopathies

Novel targets or biologic therapies for inflammatory cardiomyopathies
Biomarker approaches for patient stratification

NEPHROLOGY & TRANSPLANT

Acute and chronic solid organ transplant rejection (kidney/lung)

Novel biologic therapies or targets to prevent or treat acute and chronic solid organ transplant rejection of the kidney and lung

Chronic graft versus host disease (GvHD)

Novel biologic therapies for the treatment and prevention of chronic GvHD

Tolerance for organ transplant rejection

Novel biologic therapies for the induction of tolerance to prevent or treat organ transplant rejection

VACCINES

Respiratory vaccines

1. New antigenic targets (epitopes or combinations)
2. Methods (e.g. artificial intelligence/machine learning) to predict respiratory viral evolution/pathogenicity to inform vaccine development

New vaccine targets

Development of novel targets/approaches for any disease

RNA delivery and therapeutics

1. RNA delivery, enhanced stability, route of administration and/or expression strategies
2. mRNA-encoded protein therapies encompassing cellular targeting technologies

Immune mechanisms

Understanding innate and adaptive responses to vaccines

RESPIRATORY

Idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis, pulmonary sarcoidosis and progressive pulmonary fibrosis

1. Novel biologic therapies or target proposals derived from translational or biobank cohorts
2. Therapies targeted at reversing remodelling of fibrotic lung tissue
3. Multiomics-based approaches to target discovery

Community acquired pneumonia (CAP)-associated complications

(Acute Respiratory Distress Syndrome (ARDS), Sepsis, Acute kidney injury (AKI))

1. Novel biologic therapies or target proposals derived from translational or biobank cohorts
2. In Silico approaches for patient stratification to delineate CAP patients at risk for ARDS/Sepsis/AKI

GENE THERAPY

Gene editing / genomics

1. Improve insertional editing efficiencies *in vivo*
2. Genetic elements enhancing regulation of cells of the immune system (e.g., promoters and enhancers)

In vivo Delivery

1. Delivering nucleic acid templates for insertional gene editing
2. Targeting moiety for hematopoietic stem cells

GT safety

Technologies that minimize serious adverse events from insertional gene editing

PLASMA PROTEIN RESEARCH

Novel plasma therapeutic candidates

1. Seeking plasma candidates aligned with CSL's therapeutic areas
2. CSL can provide native human plasma proteins (≥ µg/L plasma concentration) for preclinical proof-of-concept studies

Novel association of plasma protein function with disease

1. Based on healthy and patient clinical data sets aligned with CSL's therapeutic areas, or
2. Access to patient data sets with corresponding clinical data to enable association studies to be performed

Novel methods for plasma protein purification

Protein purification systems capable of targeted purification from plasma with high purity at research scale (methods translatable to manufacturing scale will be prioritized).

CSL is also interested in new uses for our existing products. If you have a proposal in this area, please e-mail **RAI@cslbehring.com** to discuss.