Information required for submission of Proposal to Medicines for Malaria Venture’s 1st African Call for Proposals

Deadline for receipt in MMV office: 12 noon (CET) March 23th, 2018

Please read the instructions carefully. Submissions should be completed on 2 pages of A4. MMV will only receive submissions electronically; please see the accompanying templates and contact details at the end of this document.

The 2-page proposal outlining the African project using the guidelines and templates provided will be competitively assessed by MMV and MMV’s Expert Scientific Advisory Committee (ESAC). Up to three of these will then be selected for funding based on scientific merit. It is in your interest to present all relevant data as completely and as concisely as possible. Some guidelines on this are provided below.

Please note: If you have several approaches or potential projects that you wish to propose for funding, then each approach should be submitted as a separate project application. Please remember when preparing the application that MMV and the MMV ESAC is already familiar with the key issues of malaria, malaria chemotherapy and the need for antimalarial drugs. So please focus on key information, chemical structures and data. Your proposal should restrict itself to details placed in the context of drug discovery.

To be eligible for consideration for funding as part of this call, MMV welcomes proposals only from endemic region African scientists focused in the following priority areas:

Compounds with confirmed activity on any antimalarial life-cycle stage
Novel families of molecules with confirmed activity (EC50 < 10uM) and a medicinal chemistry plan that tackles any known or anticipated liability.

Assay development and screening
Assay development and screening to support discovery or development of novel antimalarials. Priority will be given to proposals that maximize use of local, field isolates.

The following information will assist you in preparing a focused application.

To apply with a LOI you should use the following template.

The 1st page of your application should outline:
• Project title
• Contact details of Principal Investigator, and partners (if relevant) with areas of responsibility of within the project and a succinct description of their professional expertise and contribution to the team.
• Overall goals of the project and the Target Candidate Profile focus
• Project Focus – to clarify the type of proposal (delete as appropriate)
• Project Status (this may continue into second page)
• For medicinal chemistry proposals: the proposal will only be reviewed if chemical structures are shown, along with calculated molecular weight, clogP and accompanying parasite data. If additional data (e.g. pharmacokinetics, physical properties, selectivity, in vivo efficacy etc.) are available then it is in the interest of the applicant to report these.

• For assay development/screening proposals: describe the assay, its goal, its status, and any screening data obtained.

The 2nd page of your application should include:

• Highlight the critical issues and how these will be overcome. Examples include:
  ⇒ Give a brief summary of the medicinal chemistry plan specifically focusing on how the critical issues will be solved and showing specific compounds that would be made
  ⇒ Identify gaps in knowledge or a bottleneck that need to be addressed to optimise an assay and what compounds would be screened
  ⇒ Give specific timed milestones for the progression of the project and explain what will be delivered with the grant

• Maximum 2 literature references if any.

If accepted, the project will initiate as soon as a legal agreement is reached between MMV and the relevant parties.

SUBMISSION CONTACT DETAILS:

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Send your 2 page African Proposal, electronically to: proposals@mmv.org