APPLICATION GUIDELINES FOR
CoSTAR-HS AMR RESEARCH GRANT (CoSTAR-HS ARG)

(Closing Date: 18th April 2019, Thursday, 5:00pm)

I. Overview

The Collaborative Solutions Targeting Antimicrobial Resistance Threats in Health System (CoSTAR-HS) is funded by the National Medical Research Council’s (NMRC’s) Centre Grant call announced in August 2016. It is a partnership involving researchers and clinicians from the National University Health System (NUHS), Singapore General Hospital (SGH), and Communicable Diseases Centre (CDC). CoSTAR-HS aims to build capacity, infrastructure and networking opportunities for AMR research in Singapore.

CoSTAR-HS Antimicrobial Resistance Research Grant (CoSTAR-HS ARG) aims to encourage exploratory and developmental research projects by providing support for the early and conceptual stage research. It is intended for innovative research projects that

a. Develop and strengthen inter-institutional research collaboration or networks in Singapore
b. Need to utilize the facility cores developed under CoSTAR-HS

Details on facility cores can be found here

Proposals are encouraged to be in line with any of the research themes within CoSTAR-HS as shown below (i to ix):

i. Novel diagnostics for the identification of Antimicrobial Resistant (AMR) determinants
ii. Novel infection control strategies assessment
iii. Optimizing antimicrobial stewardship programmes (ASPs) in Singapore
iv. Health systems and behavioral science (HSBS) research to address the drivers of AMR in hospitals
v. Carbapenemase producing Enterobacteriaceae in Singapore (CaPES): Epidemiology, risk factors and outcomes
vi. Integration of whole genome sequencing (WGS) into infection control
vii. Combining shoe- leather epidemiology with WGS to model and predict CP-CRE transmission dynamics
viii. Health systems and behavioral science (HSBS) research to address the drivers of AMR in hospitals
ix. White space: Seeks investigators-led AMR research which may provide insights on new disruptive solutions for current and future healthcare challenges

Details on research themes can be found here

II. Eligibility Criteria

- Each proposal must involve investigators/researchers from at least 2 of the 3 main institution partners of CoSTAR-HS (NUHS, SGH, CDC) or at least 1 of the 3 main institution partners of CoSTAR-HS and one other external institution.
- PI must have a PhD and/or MBBS/BDS/PharmD/MD and/or other appropriate Postgraduate Qualifications (at least a Master’s Degree). For proposals involving patients, either the PI or co-I should be SMC-registered; or should be able to demonstrate ability to access patients through SMC-registered collaborators. It is recognized that some studies may not require patient involvement.
- PI must hold a primary appointment in a local publicly funded institution and salaried by the institution. The PI need not be from any of the 3 main institution partners of CoSTAR-HS.
III. Funding Details

- Applicants can apply up to **S$50,000 per research project**, spanning **no more than 12 months**.
- The budget for this grant is solely for project operational needs, excluding manpower, equipment and conference travels. Use of research facilities where the same are available in CoSTAR-HS will not be funded.
- Details on facility cores developed under CoSTAR-HS can be found [here](#).
- No IRC will be provided.
- All research must be conducted in Singapore.

IV. Submission Guidelines

- Applications should be typed in **Arial font size 10 double spacing** using the attached [application form](#).
- Late or incomplete applications will be rejected.
- 1 softcopy application (with signatures) to be emailed to ephzun@nus.edu.sg by **18th April 2019 (Thurs) 5:00pm**.
- Softcopy proposal to be submitted as **1 file** including all attachments either in Word DOC or PDF format.
- Applicants will be informed of the outcome of applications by end June 2019. Awarded projects should start no later than 1 July 2019.

V. Reporting Requirements

Successful grant applicants are required to submit a **progress report every 6 monthly** and a **final report** 1 month upon project completion.

VI. Compliances

- For projects that require **ethics approval**, a copy of the approval letter must be forwarded to the CoSTAR-HS Secretariat (ephzun@nus.edu.sg) within 3 months from the date of award.
- All collaborating investigators of grant proposal will have deemed to understand and agree to the **data sharing policy** stipulated by NMRC ([http://www.nmrc.gov.sg/content/nmrc_internet/home/top_nav/grant-management/data-sharing.html](http://www.nmrc.gov.sg/content/nmrc_internet/home/top_nav/grant-management/data-sharing.html)) and will undertake to implement this policy on their proposed project, upon successful grant award.

VII. Enquiries

Please contact:

1. Ms Zunairah Binti Lukman (ephzun@nus.edu.sg)
2. Ms Quake Ai Li (ephqal@nus.edu.sg)