



Date	9/27/2021
From	Suchitra Kurria, Director of Corporate Giving, Bristol Myers Squibb
RE:	Request for Proposals
Response Due Date	Response must be received on or before November 1, 2021
RFP Topic	Request for Proposal for the Development and Implementation of Innovative Interventions That Effectively Address Health Disparities and Promote Health Equity Among People Living with Inflammatory Bowel Disease
Intended Audience	US based patient advocacy and community organizations, health equity-focused organizations and coalitions, medical or professional societies
Geographic Region	United States
RFP Rationale	<p>Inequities in health care have always challenged our society, even more so during these uncertain and tumultuous times. Systemic flaws and societal norms have disadvantaged Black, Indigenous and People of Color, other ethnic minorities, and certain socioeconomic groups. These inequities have prevented equality in receiving timely, high-quality care and achieving optimal health outcomes. Health and healthcare inequities often occur across intersecting dimensions – from race and ethnicity, socioeconomic status, age, disability status, sexual orientation, and many more.</p> <p>Although Crohn’s Disease (CD) and Ulcerative Colitis (UC) have historically been considered disorders that primarily affect those of European ancestry, the epidemiology of inflammatory bowel diseases (IBDs) is changing. Coupled with the increasing incidence of IBD in previously low-incidence areas, the population demographics of IBD in the United States are also changing, with increases among non-White races and ethnicities.¹ In a recent literature review,² several studies reported that the incidence of IBD among African Americans is approaching that of Whites, whereas the incidence of UC among Hispanics is increasing at a rate similar to that of whites.</p> <p>IBD can be a challenging disease to successfully manage even among well-educated patients with excellent healthcare access.³ Potential causes of disparities in IBD treatment in patients of varying races and ethnicities include¹:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delay in diagnosis • Differences in adherence • Decision-making challenges • Differences in insurance coverage and cost of care • Access to IBD specialists and to centers of excellence • Differences in disease perception and self-management • Environmental differences (sociocultural, dietary, geographical) <p>Identifying methods of reducing disparities and improving the effectiveness of health care interventions for IBD in patients of various</p>

	<p>races and ethnicities is essential to achieving health equity among minority patients and improving health outcomes for all patients.</p> <p>References</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Barnes EL, Loftus EV Jr, Kappelman MD. Effects of race and ethnicity on diagnosis and management of inflammatory bowel diseases. <i>Gastroenterology</i>. 2021 Feb;160(3):677-689. 2. Afzali A, MD, MPH, Cross RK, MD, MS, Racial and ethnic minorities with inflammatory bowel disease in the United States: a systematic review of disease characteristics and differences. <i>Inflamm Bowel Dis</i>. 2016 Aug;22(8): 2023–2040. 3. Sewell JL, Velayos FS. Systematic review: the role of race and socioeconomic factors on IBD healthcare delivery and effectiveness. <i>Inflamm Bowel Dis</i>. 2013 Mar;19(3):627-643.
Length of Proposed Project	12 – 24 months
Preference will be given to those proposals that address ALL the following:	
1. Overview of Requesting Organization	Please provide information about the organization requesting support, including its mission, confirmation of its status as a non-profit entity, key officers and staff who will direct the proposed program, and descriptions of other participating organizations/partners.
2. Statement of need/ identifying the disparity	Provide a clear description of the disparity the program aims to address, the population to be reached, and how.
3. Goals and Implementation	Provide program goals, execution and implementation, and a timeline, with a detailed breakdown of proposed activities.
4. Initiatives	<p>Specify how the program will identify and develop potential solutions to address the focal health disparity or inequity. Topics may include, but are not limited to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Patient education 2) Cultural competency 3) Access to care and treatment <p>Please indicate whether your organization has executed similar types of programs and activities before. If so, please include a description (a link to the program, if available), and describe the program results. Comment on lessons learned from that program, and how they influence the creation of the new proposed program.</p>
5. Budget	<p>In addition to providing your organization’s most recent year’s Tax Form 990, please provide a detailed budget for each proposed activity. Please include justification for the requested amount and follow guidelines outlined in the online submission process, pointing out areas for which you have identified opportunities for cost savings. Provide as much detail as possible on intended expenditures. Also indicate if this project will be supported by multiple funders.</p> <p>Multiple awards may be granted with an estimated average award of \$50,000 USD.</p>
6. Reach and Impact	Please specify the number of people you plan to reach with the proposed program, including geographic distribution, and a detailed community outreach plan. Explain how the proposed program plans to address stated areas of unmet need and the disparity the project is aiming to address.

7. Collaboration	Describe how your organization will collaborate with other organizations to address stated areas of unmet need. Please provide the names of partner organizations with which you intend to collaborate, and explain roles, responsibilities, and how you will work with them. Proposals that include partnerships are preferred.
8. Evaluation	Specify how you will define and measure success for proposed activities; indicate how the program will be measured and evaluated, and how and when program results will be reported. Please be specific about what and how outcomes will be shared.
9. Reporting	Please specify the descriptive and evaluative reporting of program results that you will provide to BMS. Reports are required every 6 months and a final report is due at the conclusion of funded activities.
10. Sustainability and Replicability	Describe specific plans to broadly disseminate the proposed program's results and ensure sustainability beyond the funding period.
11. Disease Areas of Focus	Inflammatory bowel disease, Crohn's disease, ulcerative colitis
Important Reminder	BMS will have no influence over the program's content or development. BMS is unable to provide feedback that may shape or influence the content of the RFP response. All questions must be directed to Corporate Giving contacts provided below.
How to Submit Your Response	Proposals must be submitted online at https://www.bms.com/about-us/responsibility/corporate-giving/how-to-apply-for-corporate-giving.html Please reference RFP Code: RFP-21-CG-HE-101
Contact Information for Questions	Please contact Suchitra Kurria at suchitra.kurria@bms.com or Suzanne Snyder at suzanne.snyder@bms.com with any questions regarding the RFP submission process.