



### **Request for Proposal (RFP) for Independent Medical Education (IME)**

#### The Role of Community, Outpatient, and Ambulatory Care Pharmacists in Immune-Related Adverse Event Identification and Management

Therapeutic Area	Immuno-Oncology
Sub-area of Interest	Immune-related Adverse Events
Intended Learners	Community, Outpatient, and Ambulatory Care Pharmacists
Budget	\$300,000
Geographic Coverage	<b>United States</b>
References	Supportive citations are provided beginning on page 3
Submission Deadline	Sunday, October 9, 2022, 11:59 pm ET
Submission	<a href="http://www.msddgrant.com">www.msddgrant.com</a>
Submission code	IrAE2022

## Background

The values of MSD start with putting the patient first. We support quality IME for healthcare professionals (HCPs) designed to improve patient health outcomes, across a variety of scientific areas. Global Professional Relations and Independent Medical Education (gPRIME) aims to be the world class industry leader collaborating with professional organizations to support innovative IME, advancing knowledge, competence, and performance of HCPs to help improve patient care and health outcomes. Education which allows for reinforcement of the learning objectives is key to long-term performance optimization, as is the incorporation of tools and ongoing reminders for HCPs that help them apply their knowledge. The best way to improve patient care is through the application of relevant and appropriate medical education.

Immunotherapy is a type of cancer treatment that helps the immune system fight cancer, in both solid and hematologic malignancies. The use of immunotherapy, as monotherapy or in combination with other treatment modalities, is critical for helping many patients with cancer live their lives with minimal disruption. Unfortunately, some patients receiving immunotherapies may develop immune-related adverse events (IrAEs) as a result of the immunotherapies. When an IrAE develops, patients need to act quickly, and may seek information from community, outpatient, and ambulatory care pharmacists.

## Identified Educational Gap(s)

The gPRIME team at Our Company identified several practice gaps surrounding the pharmacists' role in identifying and managing IrAEs through outcomes reports from previously supported IME activities, quality measures, and published literature. These knowledge, competence, and performance gaps can be effectively addressed through IME for pharmacists working to advance patient health outcomes. Our Company would like to support education surrounding the following knowledge and performance gaps for community, outpatient, and ambulatory care pharmacists:

- The need to employ strategies for patients receiving immunotherapy to self-monitor and report IrAEs
- The need to identify risk factors predisposing some individuals to developing IrAEs
- The need to appropriately develop a pharmaceutical plan when consulted by other healthcare professionals (eg, emergency medicine physicians, urgent care personnel, oncologists, and members of the oncology healthcare team) regarding the management of IrAEs
- The need to correctly implement appropriate treatment sequencing when facing complicated IrAE scenarios
- The need to develop an appropriate strategy for engaging physician sub-specialists for escalated interventions

Our Company is looking to support education to narrow or close these gaps; however, depending on the needs identified by the providers, the education may not be able to address all these educational gaps in a single proposal.

## Eligibility Criteria

- **U.S. based** professional associations and medical societies, healthcare institutions, medical education companies, and other organizations committed to improving the quality of healthcare delivered to individuals, through the education of HCPs, may apply for this grant.
- The applicant must be an accredited provider in good standing by the American Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE), or have Joint Accreditation for interprofessional continuing education.
- The selected grant recipient will need to attest to the terms, conditions, and purposes of the independent educational grant as described in Our Company's Letter of Agreement, and comply with current ethical codes and regulations.

## Prioritization of Grant Applications

Our Company will evaluate all complete grant applications, and will give priority to those most likely to independently validate the aforementioned educational and performance gaps specific to the needs of specific cohorts of learners. Proposals should be built around the educational or performance need (including an identification of current knowledge or practice of targeted learners contrasted with ideal knowledge and practice), supported with aligned learning objectives, constructed with appropriate instructional design and adult learning theory, and evaluated using Moore's scale of educational effectiveness. Our Company encourages application submission to additional commercial supporters with similar scientific interests.

Our Company appreciates the complexity of education required for HCPs to help improve patient health outcomes. In our experience, collaboration between medical education providers may yield better educational outcomes by enabling multi-modal education and developing tools and resources for a broader group of learners.

## Terms and Conditions

The selected grant recipient shall be bound by the terms and conditions found in Our Company's Letter of Agreement.

## References

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- Manolakis PG, Skelton JB. Pharmacists' contributions to primary care in the United States collaborating to address unmet patient care needs: the emerging role for pharmacists to address the shortage of primary care providers. *Am J Pharm Educ*. 2010;74(10):S7.
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- National Comprehensive Cancer Network Guidelines. Management of Immunotherapy-Related Toxicities. Version 1.2022. Accessed: July 19, 2022.
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