

BACKGROUND

CATALYST is an exciting new program launched by Allied-Bristol Life Sciences (ABLS), a joint venture of global pharmaceutical company Bristol-Myers Squibb and venture builder Allied Minds, to identify and develop commercially-promising biopharmaceutical innovations from leading universities and research institutions. Launched in 2014, ABLS provides world-class expertise in drug development, access to a fully integrated drug discovery and development center (with medicinal chemistry, biological assays, animal models, pharmacology, toxicology capabilities, etc.) as well as seasoned management and the necessary financial backing to bring transformational academic discoveries to patients.

OBJECTIVES

Through CATALYST, ABLS aims to:

- Identify therapeutic opportunities with strong translational potential and that are aligned with ABLS's strategic areas of interest.
- License and develop lead compounds, investing up to \$16M per program to undertake pre-clinical development and position the program for further clinical development and commercialization by BMS.
- Strengthen relationships with leading academic institutions.

ELIGIBILITY

The Principal Investigator of a CATALYST proposal must be available to collaborate with ABLS in the translation of their discovery.

DISCLOSURE AND CONFIDENTIALITY

The information contained in your proposal is NOT deemed confidential unless your institution has entered into a Confidentiality Agreement with ABLS that covers the subject matter of your proposal. Please consult with your technology transfer office for guidance on disclosure of confidential information.

SELECTION CRITERIA AND PROCESS

- Successful proposals will have elucidated novel and differentiated mechanisms, supported by strong scientific validation, underlying disease states of strategic interest (see below). Priority will be given to those projects where initial lead molecules have already been identified and possess the potential to deliver first-in class drug candidates.
- Proposals are accepted on a rolling basis. Proposals submitted by the 1st of each month are reviewed on or before the 28th of the same month. PIs of selected proposals will be invited to present their projects to the CATALYST Steering Committee. If your project is selected, we will work efficiently with you to finalize the research plan, budget, and necessary agreements.

STRATEGIC AREAS OF INTEREST*

Immuno-Oncology

- Focus on approaches that are direct acting on the immune system
- Immune checkpoint inhibitors and co-stimulatory agents
- Tumor intrinsic targets with demonstrated impact on anti-tumor immunity
- Tumor microenvironment

Oncology

- Agents displaying synergy with immune checkpoint inhibitors
- Established non-immunosuppressive mechanisms of action
- New approaches to validated cancer pathways
- Emerging areas of cancer biology
- Antibody drug conjugates - novel targets and late preclinical / clinical-stage programs in areas of unmet medical need
- Out of Scope: Supportive care

Immunoscience

- Assets with transformative potential in IBD, Inflammatory Arthritis, SLE/lupus nephritis and other autoimmune disease with high unmet needs. Out of Scope: Allergy and Asthma

Cardiovascular

- Heart failure: acute, post-acute, HFrEF, HFpEF, cardiomyopathy
- Highly validated targets addressing CV risk with clear specialty medicine development paths
- Out of Scope: LDL lowering, HDL raising

Genetically-Defined Diseases

- Focus on monogenic diseases
- Clinical-stage opportunities in rare/orphan diseases targeting at or near mutant protein
- Special interest in clinical and preclinical opportunities targeting Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy, Synuclein, Nav1.7, and Familial Cardiomyopathy (fCM – hypertrophic or dilated)

Fibrosis

- Mechanisms that specifically block myofibroblast activation/differentiation and profibrotic macrophage activation
- Targeted approaches to inhibition of TGF- β and other developmental pathways
- Approaches and mechanisms that target matrix re-modeling, epithelial cell protection and repair
- New anti-fibrotic mechanisms with data supporting target validation and some safety understanding
- Non-invasive diagnostics and biomarkers
- Priority fibrotic diseases include: NASH, Idiopathic Pulmonary Fibrosis, Systemic Sclerosis, IgA Nephropathy
- Out of Scope: Eye fibrosis, wound healing, keloids, uterine (endometriosis)

*Strategic areas of interest are subject to change.

CATALYST PROPOSAL

Prepare your proposal using this template. Do not exceed 2 pages including figures, but not including Supplemental Info. When you are ready, submit your proposal to pipeline@alliedminds.com. Proposals are accepted on a rolling basis.

PI FIRST NAME	PI LAST NAME	DEGREES
TITLE	DEPARTMENT	
ORGANIZATION		
PROJECT TITLE		
DISEASE INDICATION(S)		
TARGET	MODALITY (small molecule, antibody, peptide, RNAi, etc.)	

UNMET NEED, NOVELTY, TRANSLATIONAL SIGNIFICANCE

Briefly describe the unmet medical need(s) your proposal aims to address. Describe the disease mechanism(s) and target pathways underlying your proposed approach and scientific validation for the mechanism. Briefly explain why the proposed approach is novel and translational.

PROPOSED RESEARCH PLAN

Briefly describe your research plan (objectives, specific aims, and feasibility). Make sure to include clear deliverables, go/no-go decision points and timelines for each.

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY (IF ANY)

Insert Google Patents, WIPO or USPTO links to relevant issued patents and published patent applications here.

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

- Attach PDF of PI Biosketch (NIH format).
- Attach PDFs of most relevant scientific abstracts, publications (max 3).