

## PA Spinal Cord Injury Research Advisory Committee Guidance / Intent

1. Funding is intended to support novel SCI research projects. Grants shall be awarded to conduct research into new and innovative treatments and rehabilitative efforts for the functional improvement of people with spinal cord injuries. Research topics may include, but are not limited to, pharmaceutical, medical device, brain stimulus, and rehabilitative approaches and techniques.
2. Preference will be given to those projects and techniques that seek to change the nature and course of the injury.
3. This funding initiative was driven by the legislative intent to address the gap in translation of discovery to human study and application. As a result, further preference will be given to research that is strategically translational or translatable relative to aims and outcomes met.
4. Finally, there is also preference given to research strategies that represent a potential or existing collaboration with industry, whether in the development/trial of biologics, pharmacologics, device or novel therapeutic rehabilitative treatments in combination.

Based on the above Guidance / Intent, the Spinal Cord Research Advisory Committee has developed the Research Priorities for the 1<sup>st</sup> application cycle that will include 2019-2020 and 2020-2021 State Fiscal Years (SFY).

- RESEARCH PRIORITIES
  - The research priorities were approved as:
    - Pharmacologic, biologic, medical device, brain stimulus, and rehabilitative approaches and techniques.
    - Preference will be given to those projects and techniques that seek to change the nature and course of the injury.
    - To ensure funded research addresses the gap in translation of discovery to human study and proposal, further preference will be given to research that is strategically translational or translatable relative to aims and outcomes.
    - Finally, further preference will be given to research strategies that represent either potential or existing collaboration with industry, whether in the development and trial of biologics, pharmacologics, device, or novel therapeutic rehabilitative treatments in combination with these developments

2021-2022 Research Priorities were approved as above.

**Finalized and approved by the Spinal Cord Research Advisory Committee during the public meeting on 1/21/2021.**