



Call for research projects 2024 Algodystrophie France

Complex Regional Pain Syndrome - Chronic Neuropathic Pain

Deadline: April 04, 2024 - 5pm (Paris time)

Budget: 15 000 € - Duration max: 24 months

Contact: aap.asso@fondation-maladiesrares.com

Context

Due to the specificities of rare diseases, the Fondation Maladies Rares (Foundation For Rare Diseases - FFRD) and the association Algodystrophie France have agreed on a **partnership to support and stimulate biomedical research on the complex regional pain syndrome CRPS (or algodystrophy) and/or chronic neuropathic pain.**

The ALGODYSTROPHIE FRANCE association was created in 2018. It brings together people and their families, suffering or having suffered from complex regional pain syndrome (CRPS), more commonly known as algodystrophy.

FFRD¹ is a private non-profit organization, founded in 2012 by five members²³ with the aim of helping to (i) decipher rare diseases to facilitate diagnosis and accelerate the development of new treatments, (ii) improve the daily lives of sick people and their loved ones. FFRD carries a mission of general interest: to animate, coordinate and support research on rare diseases. It provides free support to patient organizations in their efforts to promote rare diseases research, for example through joint calls for projects such as the one proposed here.

Aim of the call

Algodystrophy or Complex Regional Pain Syndrome (CRPS), is a form of complex regional pain syndrome in which pain is disproportionate to any known triggering event and is characterized by continuous pain, allodynia or hyperalgesia, as well as edema, discoloration (changes in skin blood flow), or abnormal sudomotor activity in the painful area. (Sources: Orphanet)

¹www.fondation-maladiesrares.org

²MRNP2 :<http://www.sante.gouv.fr/le-plan-national-maladies-rares-2011-14-une-ambition-renouvelee.html>

³AFM-Telethon, Alliance Maladies Rares, Inserm, Conference Directors GChu Nationals, Conference of University Presidents



This call for proposals aims to support **innovative fundamental, translational or clinical** research programs on **algodystrophy (or CRPS)**.

All disciplines of **Biomedical Sciences, Paramedical Sciences and Human and Social Sciences** are eligible.

The association wishes to support any research aimed at **understanding the pathophysiology** of the disease, improving **diagnosis**, developing better **management methods and/or developing therapeutic strategies**, with a particular focus on :

- Management of chronic pain
- Treatment of neuropathic pain
- Pediatric (children/adolescents) research projects.

Eligibility criteria

The project will explicitly formulate a **research question**, addressing issues specifically related to **complex regional pain syndrome CRPS (or algodystrophy) and/or chronic neuropathic pain**.

The project will have to demonstrate its **novelty**, its **feasibility** and the **expertise(s)** of the researcher(s) involved.

The principal investigator ("lead applicant") must be a **researcher**, belonging to a research organization⁴. It is expected that the lead applicant will have a permanent position.

There must be a clear match between **the main methodology used in the project and the expertise of the principal investigator**.

Funding

This call for research projects provides for financial support of up to **15,000 euros for a maximum duration of 24 month**.

Funding support can cover :

- Temporary staff (excluding administrative staff).
- Equipment, up to a maximum of €1,000 (any overrun must be precisely justified in the reply form),
- Consumables, maximum 10% of the budget (any overrun must be precisely justified in the reply form),
- Assignments, up to a maximum of €1,000 (any overrun must be precisely justified in the reply form),
- Services, provided they only concern the execution of a very limited part of the project (maximum 5% of the budget).

Please note that indirect costs and institutional overhead are not provided.

Funding must be realistic, reasonable, detailed post by post and fully justified.

⁴**Research organization:** is considered a research organization, an entity such as universities or research institutes, or research structures dedicated to research within the health institution associated with a university or research institute, regardless of its legal status (public or private body) or its method of funding, whose primary purpose is to carry out basic research or applied research, experimental development activities and to disseminate their results through teaching, publication, or technology transfer.



An agreement will be established between the research program management organization (the lead applicant's research organization) and FFRD. **The management organization will not be able to charge any management fee on the amount awarded.**

Co-financing of the selected project is possible if there is no conflict of interest.

The lead applicant will manage the allocated funds, including, if necessary, the agreement and allocation to the partners teams.

Submission, selection, and schedule

The proposal form (download [here](#)), in English, is to be sent by email:

- **Before April 04, 2024, 5pm** (Paris time)
- In PDF format (no scan)
- At aap.asso@fondation-maladiesrares.com
- With the following email subject: "AlgoFrance24 - Your last name"

The joint selection by Algodystrophie France and FFRD will be based on:

- 1 – validation of the eligibility criteria by FFRD
- 2 – adequation of the proposal with patient's needs by Algodystrophie France
- 3 – evaluations by independent external expert(s) (cf. appendix)

Algodystrophie France members and external experts sign a confidentiality and a non-conflict-of-interest agreement.

Reports, documents and rankings sent to members of Algodystrophie France are confidential.

Scientific and financial follow-up

Algodystrophie France is committed to this approach with gravity and a strong sense of responsibility. The budget that its Board of Directors will commit to the selected projects comes exclusively from donations. These include donations from members, as well as funds donated by friends and families, sometimes following the death of one of their own, in a gesture of solidarity with those who are waiting and hoping. Laureates are expected to adhere to this commitment.

Half of the financial grant will be paid at the start of the project.

For projects lasting more than one year, the main applicant will be required to send a brief progress report by e-mail every 6 months (a few lines).

A precise scientific and financial report must be produced at the mid-term of the project, in order to justify the correct progress of the work and trigger payment of 40% of the grant.

A final scientific and financial report must be produced by the main applicant 1 month after the end of the project, to trigger payment of the remaining 10% of the grant.

Each report must be accompanied by a comprehensive and readable report for patients, whatever their scientific knowledge.



The work carried out and the results obtained are expected to be valorized in the form of mainstream publications (at least for Algodystrophie France website and newsletter) and scientific papers.

The project leader will make himself available to present his results at a meeting organized by Algodystrophie France.

Annex

Evaluation criteria

1. Scientific quality of the project

- Relevance and originality of the scientific question
- Positioning in the context of current knowledge and innovative character
- Quality of research undertaken
- Appropriateness of proposed methodologies

2. Editorial quality of project

- Clarity of project presentation, objectives and progress
- Rationale and justification

3. Quality of project implementation

- Feasibility
- Suitability, expertise and complementarity of the stakeholders involved, grounding in the field
- Coordination skills, internal communication
- Identification of key stages
- Multidisciplinarity
- Realism of requested funding

4. Project impact

- Benefits of research for patients
- Value of work