The CT^3N invites PENN and CHOP researchers to submit competitive proposals for Pilot Grants by December 4, 2014. The goal of these Pilot Grants is to support early-stage experimental preclinical studies in targeted therapeutics and thus assist investigators in obtaining key data to seek extramural funding. The grants will be for up to $25,000 for one year, starting February 1, 2015.

The scope:
Preclinical (animal, cell culture and in vitro) experimental studies focused on the design of systems for targeted delivery of therapeutics and/or imaging agents and the identification of molecular targets for site-specific medical interventions. Proposals in the realms of both adult and pediatric biomedicine, and especially bridging adult/pediatric medicine divide are welcome. Proposals on pediatric devices for drug and gene delivery will be reviewed as a separate subset with the collaborative support of the FDA sponsored Philadelphia Regional Pediatric Device Consortium, with budgetary options up to $50,000 per year.

Eligibility:
Applicants must be based in the University of Pennsylvania and be a full-time faculty of PENN/CHOP. Joint proposals by co-PIs from PENN /CHOP and from associated CT3N members (Drexel, Temple, Jefferson, PSU) will be considered. Applicants must be members of ITMAT CT^3N and provide a written commitment to the CT^3N activities including weekly journal club and monthly work-in-progress seminars. The PI’s lab can be based at any PENN School or at CHOP. Faculty members from all ranks and tracks are eligible to apply. Investigators in the rank of Senior Investigators and Research Associate may apply on the condition of providing approval letter from the Department Chair and letter from faculty member PI of the lab, assuring that a Research Associate’s project represents an independent new extension of the research area of this lab.

Proposal preparation:
Document Submission
All applications should be submitted via ITMAT’s Pilot Grant System at www.med.upenn.edu/apps/itmat/pg. You will need your PennKey logon and password to access this system.

- Select CT^3N when creating a new application.
- Each Investigator and Co-Investigator must have the approval of their respective Business Administrator.
- Penn Faculty should select the Business Administrator that signs off on all of their research proposals.
- All documents must be uploaded by noon on the due date of the proposal to ensure time for all approvals. All approvals must be completed by 5 pm on the due date.
- Once all approvals are completed, the grant will be received by ITMAT.
- All documents can be found at http://www.itmat.upenn.edu/funding.shtml; click on CT^3N Pilot Grants.

Format:
Abstract: Maximum of 300 words, statement of ITMAT membership, commitment to the CT^3N activities, and the title of an approved or pending IACUC protocol, if animal studies are proposed. If a pilot grant is awarded, you will be requested to submit your approval letter.
NIH biographical Sketch
NIH other support page
Budget (max $25,000 in direct costs)
Budget justification Research Project (total 2 pages) including:
  Specific Aims
  Background
  Research Plan
  Summary of anticipated results and their utility for researcher’s long-term goals
References (an additional 1 page max)

Award Terms:
Proposals will be reviewed by the CT^3N executive committee and funding will be started for one year by February 1, 2015. A final progress report is due one month after the close of the project period and should contain a one page description of main findings and their significance, a list of resulting funding, publications, presentations and collaborations. Support from the ITMAT CT^3N should be acknowledged in any publications evolving from the project.

Document Submission
All applications should be submitted via ITMAT’s Pilot Grant System at www.med.upenn.edu/apps/itmat/pg. PLEASE ENSURE THAT YOU CHOOSE THE CT^3N GRANT PROGRAM WHEN SUBMITTING YOUR GRANT PROGRAM. You will need your PennKey logon and password to access this system.

- Each investigator and Co-Investigator must be an ITMAT member.
- Each Investigator and Co-Investigator must have the approval of their respective Business Administrator.
- **Penn Faculty should select the Business Administrator or Grants Manager that normally signs off on all of their research proposals.**
- **CHOP Faculty** must select Bernice Saxon, Brent Bell, Michael Campbell, or Robert DeNight as their Business Administrator. **PLEASE ONLY CHOOSE ONE.**
- **Wistar Faculty** must select Jessica Blodgett as their Business Administrator.
- **University of the Sciences Faculty** must select Karen Mitchell as their Business Administrator.
- **Please ensure that the documents you upload are the final documents. ITMAT will not update or replace files. This means that prior to hitting the submit button, all documents must be final.**
- **When contacting the ITMAT business office, please use the same discretion you would employ if contacting an external sponsor.**
- **Please ensure that you have liaised with all of the Co-Investigators on your application. This will avoid proposals being rejected by their Business Administrator.**
- All documents must be uploaded by **noon** on the due date of the proposal to ensure time for all approvals. All approvals must be completed by **5 pm** on the due date. **THERE WILL BE NO EXCEPTIONS. We suggest you do not wait until noon to start uploading documents.**
- Once all approvals are completed, the grant will be received by ITMAT.

Application or Funding Questions
Please direct questions related to eligibility and fit with the scope of the CT3N to Dr. Muzykantov, muzykant@mail.med.upenn.edu and related to application process to Kathleen Tencer, ktencer@upenn.edu, Melissa Benson, mebenson@upenn.edu, or Jason Molli, molli@upenn.edu.