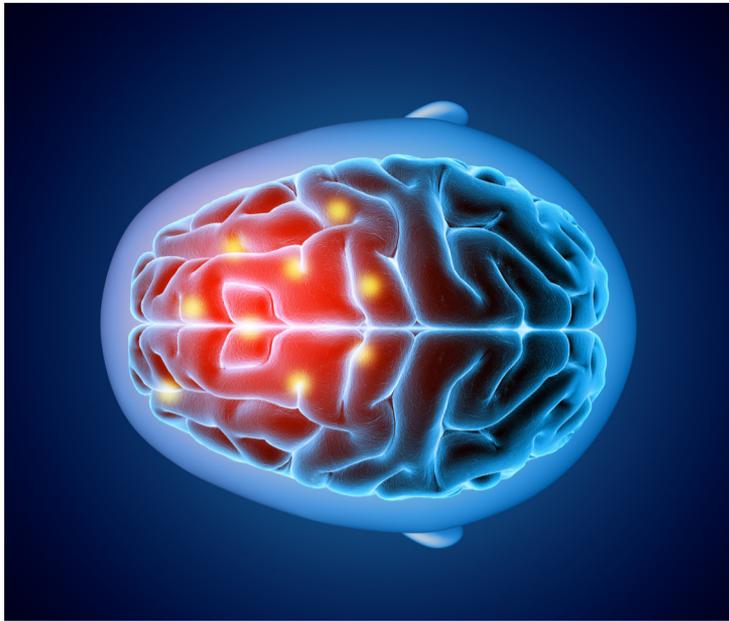


# Extra-Mural Support for Transformational Aging Brain Research (EMSTAR)



## CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

The Pratiksha Trust, a charitable organization, founded by Dr. Kris Gopalakrishnan (Chairman, Axilor Ventures and Co-Founder, Infosys) and Mrs. Sudha Gopalakrishnan, has embarked on an exemplary initiative to fully fund EMSTAR (Extra-Mural Support for Transformational Aging Brain Research).

The EMSTAR program will support cutting-edge research aimed at advancing the understanding of normal and pathological aging of the brain on the themes outlined below.

The Centre for Brain Research (CBR) will play a facilitatory role to coordinate this program with the expert help of external committees of distinguished researchers.

## FOCUS AREAS

To be eligible to compete for funding, the proposal must fall under one or more of the following areas of research:

- Understanding dementia from molecular, cellular, and systems standpoints
- Longitudinal cohort studies in rural and urban India to study the aging brain
- Artificial intelligence, machine learning, and data science approaches to decipher normal and pathological aging of the brain
- The role of hitherto less explored systems and approaches, such as the gut microbiome, in neurodegeneration, with a focus on dementia
- Immunity-nervous system crosstalk in the context of neurodegeneration, particularly dementia.

## ELIGIBILITY

Each grant must have a Principal Investigator (PI) and at least one Co-Investigator (Co-I). The PI

- must hold a PhD/MD/MBBS-MS/MPH/equivalent degree
- must have demonstrated experience in leading a research group
- must have a salaried academic or research position (or the guarantee of a salaried position) at an eligible host institution in India for the entire duration of the grant.

The Co-I may be based in India or abroad. There are no age, gender, or nationality-based restrictions.

## PROVISIONS

The upper limit for an award is INR 5 Crores.

The 5-year grant (with an average outlay of INR 1 Crore per year) may be used to cover:

- Recurring costs (personnel, materials, consumables, access charges, animal costs, clinical costs, participant allowances, publication charges, etc.)
- Non-recurring costs (equipment, software, etc.)
- Travel costs to participate in scientific meetings and contingency
- Institutional overheads (up to 10% of the budget)

## ESSENTIALS ON THE PRELIMINARY APPLICATION

- Abstract (~1000 words) of a research proposal that seeks to answer (an) original research question(s) in any of the focus areas above
- An eligible PI based at a not-for-profit institution in India and at least one eligible Co-I.

## APPLICATION DEADLINE

Preliminary applications in the prescribed format must be emailed to [emstar.cbr@iisc.ac.in](mailto:emstar.cbr@iisc.ac.in) by 11:59 PM IST on 21 November 2022.

Hard copies are not required.