

APPLICATION

Weston Brain Institute Postdoctoral Scholars at Oxford

***This application is an example only. Do not complete this paper application.***

Please submit an Application online through the Institute's grant management system at <https://weston.smartsimple.ca/welcome/neuroscience>

**NEW for 2018/2019:**

Accepting applications on diet, physical activity, sleep and nutritional supplements, if these applications meet our other scope criteria.

**Application Number:**

**Principal Applicant:**

**Project Title:**

**Proposed Supervisor  
at Oxford:**

**Application Overview**

**1. Keywords to describe the proposed work:**

**2. What type of tool(s) or therapeutic(s) is being developed as the main goal of the project?**

*(Please select only one - tool or therapeutic – that is being **developed** as the primary goal of the project, e.g., do not select "Animal model" unless you are developing a new animal model.)*

**Tool**

- Animal model
- Assay/screen
- Biomarker
- Cell line
- Clinical assessment instruments
- Diagnostic
- Imaging technique or reagent
- New method of drug delivery
- Probe
- Other *Please specify:*

**Therapeutic**

- Biologic
- Cell therapy
- Electrical brain stimulation
- Magnetic brain stimulation
- Medical device
- Small molecule
- Surgical intervention
- Vaccine
- Other *Please specify:*

If you selected 'biomarker' above, what is the primary purpose of the biomarker?

- Diagnostic – determine whether patients have a particular disease or disease subset

- Prognostic – indicate future clinical progression
- Predictive, for patient stratification to clinical trials – identify patients likely to respond (favourably or unfavourably) to a specific treatment
- Response to therapy – indicate that the biological response to a therapeutic intervention is associated with clinical benefit (i.e., surrogate for a clinical end point)

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**3. If a tool is being developed, please specify the type of tool being proposed in the project. If the proposed tool is a biomarker, please provide one sentence to answer the following question, being as specific as possible: What biomarker in what tissue/fluid/location are you measuring, using what technique, for what purpose, in which disease? If you are not developing a tool, please type “None”.**

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**4. If a therapeutic is being developed as the primary goal of the project, what phase(s) of development does the project cover?**

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**5. Research will have a significant impact in which vascular disease(s) of aging?**

*(Select only those that apply. There is **no** benefit to selecting more than one disease.)*

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Alzheimer’s disease            | <input type="checkbox"/> Vascular contributions to the listed diseases (not stroke-mediated vascular disease)   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dementia with Lewy Bodies      | <input type="checkbox"/> Prodromes to the listed diseases (e.g., mild cognitive impairment to Alzheimer’s disease; REM sleep behavior disorder as prodromal to Parkinson’s disease) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Frontotemporal dementia        |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Multiple system atrophy        | <i>If above is selected, please also select disease(s) that apply</i>   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Parkinson’s disease            |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Progressive supranuclear palsy |   |

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**6. Relevance of proposed work to the Institute’s mandate:** Explain how the primary tool or therapeutic being developed in this project (as identified in question 2 above) is translational research, and will accelerate the development of therapeutics for neurodegenerative diseases of aging. For tools, this requires addressing how the tool will have an immediate impact on accelerating translational research on therapeutics.

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**7. What type of tool(s) and/or therapeutic(s) is being developed aside from the primary goal of the project?**



**Tool**

- Animal model
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- Diagnostic
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- New method of drug delivery
- Probe
- Other *Please specify:*

**Therapeutic**

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- Response to therapy – indicate that the biological response to a therapeutic intervention is associated with clinical benefit (i.e., surrogate for a clinical end point)

Please provide one sentence to answer the following question, being as specific as possible. What biomarker in what tissue/fluid/location are you measuring, using what technique, for what purpose, in which disease?

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**8. Is this your first time applying for a grant from the Weston Brain Institute?**  Yes  
 No

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**9. Is this your first application for a research grant specifically in the area of neurodegenerative diseases of aging?**  Yes  
 No  
*(This information will not be used to assess the application)*

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**Personal and Project Information**

**Section 1: Personal and career questions**

**1. Personal statement:** How do you plan to become a future leader in the development of therapeutics for neurodegenerative diseases of aging? Provide evidence of your leadership ability and potential, both within academic and broader community contexts. *(maximum 500 words)*

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**2. Career goals:** Describe your long-term career path. Outline what you have done to date to reach your career goals. How will a position in your lab of choice at Oxford make you competitive to pursue your career goals when you return to Canada? How will you contribute to the Canadian neuroscience field in the future? (*maximum 500 words*)

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**3. Lab and environment:** How will attending Oxford support your research and accelerate your career? Why is the lab that you selected the best environment to help you achieve your career goals? What skills will you learn in the lab at Oxford and bring back to Canada? (*maximum 500 words*)

## Section 2: Scientific questions, project and impact

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**4. Background and impact:** Please critically evaluate existing knowledge and identify the gaps that your project is intended to fill. Explain the research focus of the lab you will join at Oxford and how your research will fit within it. How will successful completion of this work accelerate the development of therapeutics for neurodegenerative diseases of aging? (*maximum 250 words*)

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**5. Hypothesis and specific aims:** Clearly outline the aims of the project and the work to be completed during the award. (*maximum 250 words*)

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**6. Experimental approach:** How are you going to carry out the proposed work? Please include: experimental design and methods, go/no-go criteria and alternative approaches at critical milestones if needed. Mention supporting data to demonstrate feasibility of the methodology or to support the hypothesis and include it as an attachment in the supplementary materials. (*maximum 1000 words*)

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**List of publications cited in the application.** Please include full citations with a complete author list and PMID.

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## ATTACHMENTS

- 1. Applicant and Supervisor CV:** Attach your CV and that of your proposed supervisor, a maximum of 5 pages each

2. **Reference Letters:** Submit 3 letters of support (optional 4<sup>th</sup> letter):
- one from your proposed supervisor at Oxford demonstrating their willingness to support your research and have you join their lab for 2 years
  - one from your current supervisor or PhD supervisor speaking to your scientific merit and promise as a future leading Canadian neuroscientist
  - another reference of your choice speaking to your scientific qualities and leadership qualities
  - optional 4<sup>th</sup> letter of support from your department/faculty (e.g., Dean) speaking to your potential as a future candidate for a faculty position after your fellowship

*Please have your referees submit their letters of reference directly to the Institute by email at [info@westonbrain.org](mailto:info@westonbrain.org)*

3. **Milestones**

4. **Supplemental Materials (optional):** You may submit supplementary materials to a maximum of 10 pages. The content included under supplementary materials should be directly relevant to the proposed work or cited in the application. Any materials beyond 10 pages, and/or that are not relevant will not be reviewed. Supplementary materials should not contain additional text for the application. Please note that this component of the proposal application is optional so it is not meant to be onerous.

5. **Signature Page**