

Lung Cancer Screening

Lung Cancer Screening (LCS) Areas of Interest

We are currently accepting proposals for the LCS Investigator Initiated Studies Program (IISP). Please be aware that this is a highly competitive process.

To help to prepare a successful proposal, we are providing the following guidance:

- Please contact your local Regional Medical Scientific Director (RMSD, US only) or country specific liaison for any guidance pertaining to your specific concept prior to its submission, to ensure that it falls within the scope and interest of the Investigator Initiated Studies Program (IISP).
- Carefully review the Areas of Interest (AOI) below. Proposals that are not within the scope of these AOIs may be rejected without further review. Occasionally, we receive proposals out of the AOIs that represent "out of the box" thinking and are ultimately of great interest. If you believe this may apply for your proposal, please review with your RMSD or appropriate liaison prior to submission.
- Please include documentary evidence of successful and timely accrual and publication of investigators' studies in similar indications where possible. Feasibility is carefully considered in our assessment process.
- The Program encourages less experienced investigators to seek guidance from a mentor prior to submitting IISP proposals. If working with a mentor please also provide their CV where possible, along with a detailed letter from the mentor describing the mentoring plan.
- The Program requests that investigators specify how they will support diversity in enrollment to include populations that have historically had limited access to care.

The IISP review is a competitive process. Decisions will be made on the basis of scientific/clinical merit and strategic fit, as well as feasibility.

Please be sure to abide by the timelines for this process as outlined below when submitting applications.

For investigators outside of the US, please contact your MSD country liaison for relevant requirements and timelines.

Special Note: Diversity & Inclusion and Patient Engagement

We seek to foster diverse and inclusive representation and patient engagement within the individual Areas of Interest for each tumor type. We encourage study proposals

across our Program which, in addition to demonstrating scientific merit, also take into consideration the following:

- Outcome disparities in populations that have historically had limited access to care
- Inclusion of non-academic programs/institutions
- Involvement of under-represented regions or countries

Lung Cancer Screening Clinical AOs for 2025

- Studies to assess the benefits and risks of quantitative or qualitative tools, methods or processes to evaluate factors used to assess lung cancer risk
- Evaluation and study of new technologies (including digital technologies, artificial intelligence, etc.) independent of, or complimentary to, accepted lung cancer screening methods
- Patient engagement studies to help lung cancer screening rates, including communities and those with high risk characteristics that may not be included in established eligibility criteria for lung cancer screening