



National Cancer
Institute of Kenya
NCI - KENYA

NATIONAL CANCER INSTITUTE OF KENYA
2ND CALL FOR CANCER RESEARCH PROPOSALS 2024/2025
REF NO: NCI-K/002/2025

Overview

The National Cancer Institute of Kenya (NCI-K) is a government agency established under the Cancer Prevention and Control Act, No.15 of 2012. NCI-K has the mandate to provide leadership, oversight and coordination on cancer-related activities in Kenya. NCI-K tackles the growing burden of cancer in Kenya through a multisectoral approach. The Institute is guided by the National Cancer Control Strategy 2023-2027, which outlines a key objective of Kenyan government: strengthening of cancer research in Kenya in order to reduce cancer burden. To achieve this, NCI-K invites applications for the 2nd Call for Cancer Research Proposals. This call is designed to support researchers conduct high quality cancer research that address challenges in the cancer control continuum in Kenya.

Background

Cancer is the third leading cause of death from non-communicable diseases in Kenya, with approximately 42,000 new cases and 29,000 deaths reported in 2022. The disease imposes a heavy burden on households, communities, and the healthcare system. Addressing this health challenge requires a comprehensive approach encompassing prevention, screening, diagnosis, treatment, survivorship, and palliative care. Research plays an essential role in generating evidence to inform effective cancer prevention and control strategies. This funding opportunity is a strategic initiative by the Kenyan government to advance cancer research and promote collaborative efforts aimed at developing effective solutions to address the cancer burden.

The 2nd Call for proposals seeks to provide seed funding for innovative research projects aimed at advancing the understanding of cancer causes, progression, and treatment in Kenya. The objective is to support research that will lead to meaningful progress in combating cancer, improving prevention and care strategies, and ultimately enhancing outcomes for individuals and communities impacted by the disease in Kenya. Projects should demonstrate the potential to contribute significantly to the body of knowledge on cancer in Kenya and support the broader global fight against this life-threatening illness. National Cancer Institute of Kenya invites submission of cancer research proposals that align with this mission and address priority areas in cancer research.

Scope

The proposed research should focus on one or more of the following thematic areas:

1. Cancer burden description
2. Cancer prevention and causation
3. Screening and early detection
4. Cancer diagnosis, treatment, palliative care and survivorship
5. Cancer care economics and finance
6. Health systems and policy in cancer care



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Eligibility Criteria

1. The Principal Investigator (PI) must be a Kenyan citizen.
2. Both local and international collaborations and partnerships are highly encouraged.
3. The PI must be affiliated with a public or private university, research centre/institute, tertiary training institution, industrial establishments or any other public sector organisation.
4. Applications can only be submitted by the PI from a recognised organisation in Kenya, which will assume responsibility for the grant as outlined in the NCI-K Research Grant Agreement.
5. The PI must hold a minimum of a Master's degree or equivalent qualification, a verifiable track record detailed in their CV, provide documented evidence of affiliation with one of the eligible institutions and not to be on extended leave.
6. The PI is encouraged to include students under their supervision as part of their research teams.
7. The PI will assume responsibility for ensuring that the project activities are effectively coordinated and implemented. This will include managing communication between NCI-K and co-investigators.
8. The application must be endorsed by the Head of the PI's affiliated institution or organization.

Application Guidelines

Successful proposals will receive funding subject to the terms and conditions outlined in the NCI-K research funding guidelines.

1. Funding Duration: Grants are awarded for a **one-year period**.
2. Maximum Award: **Up to KES. 3,000,000** per project.
3. All budget items must directly support the research and dissemination activities detailed in the proposal and align with the project's scope of work.
4. All costs must be fully justified and necessary to achieve the project objectives.
5. Funds must be used solely for the approved project and cannot be transferred to another researcher.
6. Allowable Costs: Project Supplies, Services, and Equipment. Travel, accommodation, and subsistence costs for data collection directly related to the research, capped at 25% of the total grant. Seminars and Workshops related costs within the project scope. Research Management Costs must not exceed 7.5% of the total grant.
7. Provide a detailed budget breakdown and justification for all requested funding using the template provided.

How to apply

All research proposals must adhere to the structure provided in the **Application Form**, which can be downloaded from <https://www.ncikenya.go.ke>. Use the headings in the exact sequence outlined in the application form. No additional headings should be added. Ensure that all required sections are completed with the necessary information. Proposals must be concise, clear, and focused on the research objectives and methodology. The proposal may not exceed 20 pages.



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Applications must include the following

1. Completed Application form.
2. Letters of support from the Head of Institution/Head of affiliate institution and collaborating institutions.
3. CV of Principal Investigator
4. Completed Budget using the provided template

Submission of applications must be in electronic format to grants@ncikenya.go.ke. Please use the subject: **NCI-K Second Call for Proposals**.

The **deadline** of submission is **20th February 2025, 23:59 EAT**. Applications submitted after this deadline will not be considered.

Evaluation Criteria

NCI-K will enlist subject matter experts to evaluate submitted proposals based on specified evaluation criteria.