I-CORPS AT NIH INFORMATION SESSION

September 25, 2019





- If you have questions, **please type them in the chat box**. Questions will be answered after alumni presentations.
- Presentation **slides will be made available** a few days after the webinar.
- Please complete the post-event survey on <u>bit.ly/ncisbirfeedback</u>

For additional questions, contact icorps@mail.nih.gov



Informational Session

Application deadline: Tuesday, October 22, 2019

More information: https://sbir.cancer.gov/icorps Contact Email: icorps@mail.nih.gov

Today's Speakers









Christie Canaria I-Corps at NIH Program Manager NIH Edmund Pendleton I-Corps at NIH Lead Instructor DC I-Corps Michael Johnson I-Corps at NIH Alum CEO, Visikol

HTTPS://SBIR.CANCER.GOV/ICORPS



Why I-Corps?



I-Corps[™] at NIH



I-Corps *Overview*

September 25, 2019

Invention Innovation

What's the difference?

Invention about creating "things"

Innovation about finding solutions to unmet needs

The Innovation Challenge

Probability of Failure



Intended Market

Probability of Failure



Intended Market



venture science

Outcome (ROI)

What drives this failure rate?

More startups fail from a

lack of customers

than from product / tech failure

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lack of customers

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Our Goal

Improve Odds



How will you improve your odds?

Get out of the building

Talk (listen) to customers...

Essence of Lean Approach

Use a systematic approach...

...to identify <u>unmet needs</u>.

Build, Show, and Hope!

Build, Show, and Hope:

Build,

Measure, and Learn!

Customer Discovery

What are you trying to discover?



Customer Discovery Process Steps







"I have approximate answers and possible beliefs and different degrees of certainty about different things



– Richard Feynman

"I have approximate answers and possible beliefs and different degrees of certainty about different things but I'm not absolutely sure about anything."



– Richard Feynman

We are ALL stakeholders...

...and want to *improve your odds.*



How to Apply

Assorted Resources for Small Business





PA-19-029 Administrative Supplement



pplication Due Date	October 22, 2019	January 21, 2020			
hone Interview	December 19-20, 2019 (estimated)	March 2-6 (estimated)			
Kick-off/Close-out Venue	TBD	TBD			
Course Kick-off	February 24-27, 2020 (Monday -	May 4-7, 2020 (Monday -			
	Thursday)	Thursday)			
Web-Ex Courses	Wednesdays, 1-5PM ET	Wednesdays, 1-5PM ET			
	March 4	May 13			
	March 11	May 20			
	March 18	May 27			
	March 25	June 3			
	April 1	June 10			
	April 8	June 17			
Course Close-out/	April 14-15, 2020 (Tuesday-	June 22-23, 2020 (Monday			
Lessons-Learned	Wednesday)	Tuesday)			

https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-19-029.html

Next Application Deadline: October 22, 2019

icorps@mail.nih.gov

HTTPS://SBIR.CANCER.GOV/ICORPS

#ICorpsNIH

23 Participating ICs in 2019-20



- National Cancer Institute (NCI)
- National Eye Institute (NEI)
- National Human Genome Research Institute (NHGRI)
- National Institute on Aging (NIA)
- National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA)
- National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID)
- National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases (NIAMS)
- National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders (NIDCD)
- National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research (NIDCR)
- National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases (NIDDK)
- National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA)
- National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS)

- National Institute of General Medical Sciences (NIGMS)
- National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH)
- National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke (NINDS)
- National Center for Complementary and Integrative Health (NCCIH)
- National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences (NCATS)
- National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (NHLBI)
- Division of Program Coordination, Planning and Strategic Initiatives, Office of Research Infrastructure Programs (ORIP)
- National Center for Emerging and Zoonotic Infectious Diseases (NCEZID/CDC)
- National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH/CDC)
- *Eunice Kennedy Shriver* National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD)
- National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities (NIMHD)

Program basics



REQUIREMENT

Eligible SBIR/STTR grantees are required to assemble **3-member teams** that will work collaboratively to complete the activities and assignments required by the I-Corps curriculum.



INSTRUCTORS

- Experienced, business-savvy instructors work closely with project teams to help them explore potential markets for their Federally funded innovations
- Instructors possess specific domain expertise in the major product areas that comprise the biomedical industry

AWARD

 The selected project teams receive grant supplement funding (\$55,000) to support entrepreneurial training, mentorship, and collaboration opportunities for translating their research ideas into viable products.

ELIGIBILITY

• To be eligible, a company must have an ACTIVE Phase I SBIR or STTR grant from one of the 21 participating NIH and CDC Institutes and Centers

The predicate Phase I grant <u>must</u> have project and budget timelines that are active from application date through end of I-Corps course syllabus.

Program Format





COURSE FORMAT

- 3-Day Kick-off Event
- 6 Weekly web classes
- 2-Day Lessons Learned

LIFE SCIENCE TRACKS

- Therapeutics
- Diagnostics/eHealth
- Medical Devices
- Teams are distributed among track "rooms"

TEACHING TEAM

- I-Corps Node
 Instructors
- Industry Domain Experts
- Curriculum tailored to life sciences

I-Corps at NIH



Program for SBIR/STTR Phase I awardees to help:

- Define the value proposition (e.g., clinical utility) <u>early</u> before spending millions – saves time AND money
- Assess IP and regulatory risk before design and build
- Better understand core customers and the <u>specific</u> steps required for downstream commercialization
 - Teams are required to conduct 100 interviews
- Gather information essential to customer partnerships/ collaborations/ purchases before doing the science
- Identify financing vehicles before they are needed (helping to avoid the "Valley of Death")



Stories from the Trenches



Erin Edwards PhD Industry Expert



Graeme Gardner PhD

PI



Michael Johnson PhD CEO



Team 167: Visikol



Where We Started

- As a company we have developed a suite of reagents and kits for 3D tissue imaging that have been used by over 500 research labs from around the world
- We signed OEM relationships with Thermo Fisher, Millipore and Abcam to sell these products
- Currently we operate as a CRO focused on drug discovery and count the following companies as Clients
- Our long term goal is to use our technologies in a clinical context to improve patient outcomes



Where We Started

- We have tools for imaging tissues in 3D as well as proprietary image analysis software
- We focused our Phase I project on leveraging these tools to develop an automated tissue processing approach for transforming clinical breast cancer FFPE tissues into quantitative three-dimensional histology data sets





The Problem

Coming into I-Corps we had a very cool technology and hit our Phase I objectives but had a major problem – *we had a solution looking for a problem*.....



We had no idea what clinical value our technology would have for patients





We had no understanding of how much a test like ours could even cost



We did not have a reliable source of tissues and data

Our main I-Corps goal was to identify how our tool could improve patient outcomes and if it could do so in a financially viable manner



Early Feedback

We thought our tool might be helpful for improving breast cancer diagnosis.

"You need to find a specific clinical problem that your tool can address such as deciding which treatment will be most effective for a patient, reducing false negatives or determining if a patient should or should not get chemotherapy and then work backwards from there."

Ciaran Mannion M.D. Hackensack University Medical Center

- This is where our idea to focus on the sentinel lymph node came from.
- The sentinel lymph node is removed in breast cancer patients to determine if the cancer has metastasized and traveled throughout the body. Currently a large tissue is sectioned into a few slices and cancer cells can easily be missed resulting in false negatives.



Feedback

We thought our tool would better inform how to treat breast cancer patients

"<u>Reducing false negative sentinel lymph node results for breast cancer will have zero impact on the</u> <u>patient</u> as only huge >2mm metastases will change the clinical treatment practice and these are easily detected today."

Bonnie Balzer M.D., PhD – Cedars Sinai

"Detecting a single cell in a melanoma sentinel node will change the clinical treatment approach dramatically and reducing false negatives will improve patient outcomes in a meaningful way."

Jing Zhai M.D. – Cedars Sinai







be metastatic



Healthcare Economics

95,500 patients per year diagnosed with melanoma

46.889 adults in US

Sentinel Lymph

Node Procedure to

Identify Metastases

- Our target market are all patients with negative SLNB
- If our test is 100% accurate it will add 9,700 years of life over a ten-year period to the patient population
- This will add \$972 million in value (QALY) while costing \$194 million in additional treatment
- Max price of our test would be \$16,500
- Initially will be a second line test



Healthcare Economics

Our interviews gave us several important aspects on pricing:

- Every patient will pay out of pocket at \$1,000 per test \rightarrow \$32M market
- Insurance companies would reimburse \$2-4,000 for the test → \$64M to \$128M market

We can then actually use these numbers to determine the quantitative endpoints for accuracy and false negative detection within our Phase II project



End Points For Phase II Study

We know based upon this data what our specific endpoints are for our Phase II study for accuracy and false negatives and also generally what our overhead cost per test can be

		0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
ACCI	0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
	10	\$0	\$300	\$600	\$900	\$1,200	\$1,500	\$1,800	\$2,100	\$2,400	\$2,700	\$3,000	\$3,300	\$3,600	\$3,900	\$4,200	\$4,500
	20	\$0	\$600	\$1,200	\$1,800	\$2,400	\$3,000	\$3,600	\$4,200	\$4,800	\$5,400	\$6,000	\$6,600	\$7,200	\$7,800	\$8,400	\$9,000
	30	\$0	\$900	\$1,800	\$2,700	\$3,600	\$4,500	\$5,400	\$6,300	\$7,200	\$8,100	\$9,000	\$9,900	\$10,800	\$11,700	\$12,600	\$13,500
אַן	40	\$0	\$1,200	\$2,400	\$3,600	\$4,800	\$6,000	\$7,200	\$8,400	\$9,600	\$10,800	\$12,000	\$13,200	\$14,400	\$15,600	\$16,809	\$18,000
ACY	50	\$0	\$1,500	\$3,000	\$4,500	\$6,000	\$7,500	\$9,000	\$10,500	\$12,000	\$13,500	\$15,000	\$16,500	\$18,000	\$19,500	\$21,000	\$22,500
	60	\$0	\$1,800	\$3,600	\$5,400	\$7,200	\$9,000	\$10,800	\$12,600	\$14,400	\$16,200	\$18,000	\$19,800	\$21,600	\$23,400	\$25,200	\$27,000
	70	\$0	\$2,100	\$4,200	\$6,300	\$8,400	\$10,500	\$12,600	\$14,700	\$16,800	\$18,900	\$21,000	\$23,100	\$25,200	\$27,300	\$29,400	\$31,500
	80	\$0	\$2,400	\$4,800	\$7,200	\$9,600	\$12,000	\$14,400	\$16,800	\$19,200	\$21,600	\$24,000	\$26,400	\$28,800	\$31,200	\$33,600	\$36,000
	90	\$0	\$2,700	\$5,400	\$8,100	\$10,800	\$13,500	\$16,200	41 8,900	\$21,600	\$24,300	\$27,000	\$29,700	\$32,400	\$35,100	\$37,800	\$40,500
	100	\$0	\$3,000	\$6,000	\$9,000	\$12,000	\$15,990	\$18,000	\$21,000	\$24,000	\$27,000	\$30,000	\$33,000	\$36,000	\$39,000	\$42,000	\$45,000

NEGATIVE SLNB QALY VALUE

FALSE NEGATIVE



Data Access and Customer

- Through our Phase II study we identified that Cedars-Sinai, Baylor and UConn have the tissues and data that we need for our study
- We have subsequently parterned with Cedars-Sinai on our Phase II project
- We identified that our customer is actually not the Pathologist but instead the Clinical Oncologist



Next Steps

Immediate next steps

- Quantitatively determine the number of images and tissue volume to image to identify a false negative SLNB
- Purchase a new confocal microscope with improved imaging depth
- File provisional patent applications on tissue processing approach, image analysis approach and general approach to assay
- We are going to fund these initial efforts through our current business profits

We submitted a Phase II grant in September 2019

• Conduct retrospective study on 170 negative sentinel lymph node melanoma biopsies



Thanks!

Michael Johnson PhD



Type your questions in the chat box.



