Frequently Asked Questions

Requests for Proposals:
Transitions in Care for Venous Thromboembolism

Q1: Are for-profit organizations eligible to apply?
A: Yes if they meet the other eligibility criteria. For-profit hospitals or healthcare systems may apply, but other for-profit companies such as medical education and communications companies or publishing companies are not eligible.

Q2. We are a hospital association and we would like to apply for a project that involves several of our member hospitals.
Q2a: Are we eligible to apply since we are not accredited by the Joint Commission?
A: Non-accreditable organizations, such as a hospital association, are eligible to respond to the RFP. The eligibility restriction associated with accreditation only applies to hospitals and other health care organizations that can be accredited by The Joint Commission. If an organization can be accredited, then it must be accredited by The Joint Commission to be eligible to apply.
Q2b: If we apply as the hospital association, do all the hospitals that are associated with our project have to be accredited by the Joint Commission.
A: No, this is not a requirement of this RFP.

Q3. Can a United States (U.S.)-based organization apply for a grant in support of a project in India?
A: No. The scope of this RPF is U.S. only. All projects must take place in the U.S.

Q4. Is Puerto Rico considered part of the geographic scope of the U.S. for purposes of this RFP?
A: Yes, Puerto Rico is included in the United States.

Q5. I am planning to include a presentation on VTE at our upcoming annual conference; can I apply for grant support from this RFP?
A: No. The intent of the RFP is to support larger, multi-faceted programs, not single events. For the education you describe in a live presentation/meeting session you may want to consider applying for a conference-type grant on the BMS website in the Category 1 RFP pathway. Pfizer and BMS work together to review grant requests in this clinical area. The next open window to apply is from April 1 to April 21. Here is the link:
http://www.bms.com/responsibility/grantsandgiving/independent_medical_education/Pages/category1-rfp.aspx

Q6. My project includes education on VTE for healthcare professionals, but it does not address the issues around Transitions of Care. Can I apply to this RFP?
A: No. The RFP issued by The Joint Commission, with Pfizer and BMS as partners, is specifically soliciting projects that include both components – VTE and Transitions of Care. For a VTE education project, you may want to consider applying for an Independent Medical Education grant through the BMS Category 2
RFP (RFPCAT2-15-CV-201). Pfizer and BMS work together to review grant requests in this clinical area. The deadline to apply is March 23, 2015. Here is the link: http://www.bms.com/responsibility/grantsandgiving/independent_medical_education/Pages/cardiovascular_RFP.aspx

Q7. Our facility is interested in submitting a proposal for this grant. Our question is regarding the measurement section on page 4. What is meant by "measure specific components of the transitions process relating to pre-admission activities"? Would you be able to provide examples?
A: The measurement section on page 4 of the RFP was not intended to provide an exhaustive list of all measurement areas, or measurement requirements. Rather, the section was intended to encourage applicants to identify relevant process and outcome measures that address the focal points of the proposal. Since transitions of care often refer to movement between care settings, the proposed measurement strategy would likely include key areas of impact associated different points along the transition process. For example, if a proposal intends to examine the transitions of care between an inpatient setting and an outpatient setting, and it includes a focus on patient education and engagement associated with anticoagulation therapy, then measurement of the effectiveness of transitions might include an assessment of post discharge activities such as patient knowledge of (and adherence to) self-management instructions. Similarly, measurement of pre-admission activities may include an assessment of processes associated with conducting patient risk assessment or patient compliance with surgical preparation instructions.

Q8. For purposes of this RFP, can Transitions of Care be interpreted as moving a patient within the hospital from one department to another such as ICU to surgery, or does it have to be from one institution to another such as hospital to out-patient setting?
A: The intent of this RFP is to focus on the Transition of Care of a VTE patient from one healthcare setting to another – such as hospital to primary care provider or hospital to long-term care center, etc.