



中華人民共和國香港特別行政區政府總部衛生福利及食物局
Health, Welfare and Food Bureau
Government Secretariat, Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region
The People's Republic of China

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8 November 2004

Dear Sir/Madam,

Call for Grant Applications
Research Fund for the Control of Infectious Diseases (RFCID)

I am delighted to inform you that the Research Fund for the Control of Infectious Diseases (RFCID) has today issued a call for research grant applications. The closing date is **12 February 2005**. Application forms and guidance notes can be downloaded from the Research Fund Secretariat's website at <http://www.hwfb.gov.hk/grants>.

The aim of the RFCID is to encourage, facilitate and support research on the prevention, treatment and control of infectious diseases. The Fund considers applications for research projects relevant to the control of infectious diseases in the areas of aetiology, epidemiology and public health, basic research, and clinical and health services research. Collaborative research with Mainland China and overseas institutions is encouraged.

The thematic priorities for the current open call for grant applications are **infectious respiratory diseases**. The following areas will be accorded higher funding priorities:

- epidemiological characteristics of the common type of infectious respiratory diseases;
- role of rapid diagnostic tests in early detection;
- cost benefit of different control strategies including vaccine deployment, and
- improving the surveillance and diagnosis of respiratory viral infections and community acquired pneumonias.

Applications falling outside the above priorities will still be considered although they will have a lower funding preference.

Copies of the leaflet of the Fund and bookmarks of the Research Fund Secretariat are enclosed. I would be grateful if you could disseminate this invitation and the publicity materials to appropriate section heads or relevant departments within your organisation.

Thank you for your attention.

Yours faithfully,



(Dr. Richard A. Collins)
for Secretary for Health, Welfare and Food

Encl.