

# George Bennett Postdoctoral Grants

## Request for Proposals

The Foundation for Informed Medical Decision Making is pleased to announce a grant program to support research in shared medical decision making for post-doctorates and clinical fellows. The grants are designed to support a specific research project that can advance the field of shared decision-making® in medical care. Through this grant program we hope to attract scholars from divergent fields including medicine, psychology, sociology, anthropology, public health, public policy, political science, economics, engineering, business, law, and related fields of study.

Grants are intended to support an original project not previously funded. This grant is intended to supplement a post-doctoral stipend or clinical fellowship to provide support for a specific research project that would not otherwise be carried out. Each project should result in publication in a peer-reviewed journal. Particular consideration will be given to projects with the potential for development into a proposal for continued study.

## Eligibility

Applicants must be no more than five years post completion of a doctoral degree or completion of a clinical residency. Grantees may not have faculty appointments.

## Funding

Awards will provide a \$25,000 grant to cover research expenses related to the specific project outlined in your proposal. The intention is to fund research projects that could not be carried out as well or at all without this funding. The Foundation requires a research project update at six months and at the conclusion of the grant period. Updates should not be longer than 10 pages.

Additionally, the Foundation will support travel to present the research results at one national conference within two years of the grant period (up to \$2000). Any publication or presentation of this research should include acknowledgment of the Foundation for Informed Medical Decision Making for its support.

## Format

The proposal narrative should not exceed 10 pages using 1.5 line spacing, exclusive of title page, abstract, references, CV, budget, budget justification, and supporting documents. Font size requirement is Arial 12 point. One inch margins are required on all sides.

## Proposals should include the following:

Title Page:  
Project Title  
Name  
Street address  
Email  
Phone  
Institution  
Doctoral Degree

Abstract: The abstract should summarize the proposal in 200 words.

Specific Aims/Research question(s): Specify the overall goal of the research as well as

delineating the research questions that will be addressed.

**Background and Significance:** This section should include background of the research, any theories or hypotheses to be addressed, and the possible implications of the research.

**Research Design and Methods:** This section should explain the data collection plan, including who will be the participants/subjects, how data will be collected, what measures or tests will be used, outcomes, and analysis plan. We welcome both quantitative and qualitative methodologies.

**Dissemination and Future Research Plans:** This section should include a plan for disseminating research results as well as a description of possible future research efforts that build on this project.

**Reference**

**Budget:** The proposal should outline the research budget. Please provide a brief explanation for each of the items included in the budget.

**Supporting Documents:** You must include documentation of a completed doctoral degree. We also require one letter of recommendation that addresses your interest in and ability to contribute to the field of shared decision-making®. Please also submit your CV including a brief biographical sketch listing your hometown, high school, undergraduate, and graduate institutions.

### **Possible topics**

This is not meant to be an exhaustive list of topics. We welcome creative, thoughtful proposals that will allow us to advance the growing field of shared decision-making®.

- Literacy and numeracy as these topics relate to the communication of complex medical information and related information such as tradeoffs and uncertainty, communicator and target effects, comprehension of audiovisual presentations.
- Legal and economic implications of shared decision-making®.
- Psychosocial implications of shared decision-making®, including family, community, competing messages.
- Knowledge, values, and outcomes. What relationships exist among patient and physician knowledge, patient and physician values, patient satisfaction with their medical choice, clinical guidelines, and clinical outcomes?
- Acceptability of shared decision-making® by health care providers and patients.
- Learn about and document how medical decisions are currently made
- Develop and evaluate strategies for providing information and support to patients making decisions
- Basic research on how best to communicate information and understanding
- Support research on the impact of different approaches to making decision on various aspects of the medical care system, including patients, providers, costs of care, physician vulnerability to suits, what treatments are chosen, and the quality of the decisions that are made.

### **Submission**

The proposal should be submitted by email or mail to the following contact. We encourage you to use email to submit your proposal to us as an attachment. Proposals **including all supporting documents** are due by December 3, 2007 at 5PM EST. Selected students will be notified on March 15, 2008 with funding to follow. The number of awards will be contingent on the availability of funds and the quality of the applications. A tentative deadline for the next round of funding will be May 1, 2008 with funding notification after August 15, 2008.

Foundation for Informed Medical Decision Making  
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The Foundation for Informed Medical Decision Making does not discriminate because of race, ethnicity, age, gender, religion, sexual orientation, or disability.