

Research Opportunity to Enhance Diversity with NIH-funded Low Back Pain Research Project

The LB3P: Low Back Pain Research Study is funded through the NIH's HEAL Initiative, a strategic effort to combat the opioid epidemic in the US. The PIs on the study are Dept. of PM&R's Dr. Gwen Sowa and Dr. Nam Vo (Dept. of Orthopaedic Surgery). Data will be collected from three key contributing domains of chronic low back pain: biological, biomechanical, and behavioral. The data will be analyzed to perform in-depth phenotyping of patients with chronic low back pain with the goal of characterizing patients and directing targeted treatments. The project's funding period will end May 31, 2024.

The NIH is currently offering ancillary funding that will support the work of high school students, undergraduates, and graduate students to post-doctoral candidates from diverse backgrounds that are underrepresented in research. Applicants must be US Citizens. Funding range is \$5,000 to \$100,000 depending on researcher level. Complete list of underrepresented populations is at: <https://diversity.nih.gov/about-us/population-underrepresented>

FOA number: PA-20-222

Proposal deadlines for 2021 are:

February 15

May 15

November 15

Those interested in applying or learning more about the research study, contact Jessa Darwin (jcd79@pitt.edu).