

**Title: Research Answers to NCI's Provocative Questions (R01)- Group A, Group B, Group C, Group D, Group E**

**Sponsor: National Cancer Institute**

[\(RFA-CA-13-016\)](#) [\(RFA-CA-13-018\)](#) [\(RFA-CA-13-020\)](#) [\(RFA-CA-13-022\)](#)  
[\(RFA-CA-13-024\)](#)

The purpose of these Funding Opportunity Announcements (FOA) is to support innovative research projects designed to solve specific problems and paradoxes in cancer research identified by the NCI Provocative Questions initiative. These problems and paradoxes phrased as questions are not intended to represent the full range of NCI's priorities in cancer research. Rather, they are meant to challenge cancer researchers to think about and elucidate specific problems in key areas of cancer research that are deemed important but have not received sufficient attention.

In the second issuance in 2012, there were eight PQs FOAs, each covering a subset of identified PQs and utilizing the R01 and R21 funding mechanisms. The current reissuance of the PQ Initiative involves an updated set of 20 PQs. In order to facilitate the peer review process, the new/updated PQs have been divided into five groups related by themes resulting in five R01 FOAs and five R21 FOAs.

**Title: Research Answers to NCI's Provocative Questions (R21)- Group A, Group B, Group C, Group D, Group E**

**Sponsor: National Cancer Institute**

[\(RFA-CA-13-017\)](#) [\(RFA-CA-13-019\)](#) [\(RFA-CA-13-021\)](#) [\(RFA-CA-13-023\)](#)  
[\(RFA-CA-13-025\)](#)

The purpose of these Funding Opportunity Announcements (FOA) is to support innovative research projects designed to solve specific problems and paradoxes in cancer research identified by the NCI Provocative Questions initiative. In general, the R21 funding mechanism is used for pilot, exploratory research projects. For such projects, preliminary data are not required, although may be included if available. It is realized that for the areas of the PQs, there could be gaps in background information and original preliminary data may be particularly scarce or hard to get beforehand. Therefore, the emphasis of these R21 FOAs is on concepts to be explored, i.e. the power of ideas behind the proposed research. These concepts and ideas must be original but also rigorous in terms of integrating to the best extent possible the available incomplete information for a given area from various sources. These requirements are similar to those for the companion R01 FOA , except that the scope of R21 projects is expected be narrower and in some cases the projects may be based on more speculative, high-risk concepts.