

# STRESS MEASUREMENT NETWORK

## *Call for Pilot Projects*

The NIA funded Stress Measurement Network is pleased to announce its 2016-2017 call for pilot projects.

**Proposal due date: May 5, 2016**

**Decisions made: May 31, 2016**

**Funding ranges: \$2k - \$10k**

**Summary:** The goal of the Stress Measurement Network is to promote better conceptualization and *measurement* of chronic stress in large-scale population based studies. Uncovering when and how chronic stress influences mental and physical health has been challenging in part because of the complexity of measuring stress. With advances in technology, the potential to measure stress has never been greater. However, there is little agreement on best practices for measuring stress, and therefore the ability to predict health outcomes with precision has been limited. Identifying high quality stress measurement tools and developing new measures when needed will allow researchers to test hypotheses about how stress influences physical health.

**Focus:** We will be funding between 5 and 10 pilot projects that seek to develop new or improve existing measures of stress. We are interested in innovative ways of measuring stress including new stress reactivity paradigms, computerized tasks, behaviors, implicit or unconscious processing measures, novel biomarkers (neuroendocrine, physiological, neural, etc.), voice analyses, behavioral indicators, smart phone platforms, daily measures, or other approaches.

**Proposal Guidelines:** Applicants should send a two-page proposal: a single-spaced page (excluding references) describing your intended project on the first page, followed by a second page with the requested budget and justification for expenses. Final proposals should be submitted to Alexandra Crosswell by May 31, 2016.

**Final Reports:** A requirement of accepting pilot funds is that you write a report on the findings from your study in a brief-report format. Final reports will be due March 1, 2017, and will be posted on our Network website (for findings that will be published, we will wait to post the results until after paper acceptance). Reports will include a description of the question pursued, methods employed, and results from the study along with general conclusions.

**Contact:**

Alexandra Crosswell, Executive Director, Stress Measurement Network, [Alexandra.Crosswell@ucsf.edu](mailto:Alexandra.Crosswell@ucsf.edu)

Wendy Berry Mendes, Co-Director, Stress Measurement Network, [Wendy.Mendes@ucsf.edu](mailto:Wendy.Mendes@ucsf.edu)

Aric Prather, Associate Director, Stress Measurement Network, [Aric.Prather@ucsf.edu](mailto:Aric.Prather@ucsf.edu)