To develop novel therapeutic approaches – gene therapy, optogenetics, bioactive molecules, diagnostic tools, imaging techniques, or implants, among others – the Fondation Bertarelli has donated CHF 5 million to create a Catalyst Fund. This fund is designed to foster innovative research and the development of life-saving treatments for diseases affecting the brain, the spinal cord, the peripheral nervous system, and the sensory organs.

FOURTH CALL FOR PROPOSALS NOW OPEN:

- Research projects – including basic research approaches – with a focus on diagnostic procedures and/or therapeutic interventions for diseases/disabilities affecting the central and peripheral nervous systems and the sensory organs
- Funding available for 2-year projects (max. CHF 300'000 per project)
- Projects can be collaborative, involving two or more academic institutions or two or more research groups within the same institution
- New projects likely to make significant progress within the grant period will be preferred

REQUIREMENTS:

- To be employed by an academic institution in Western Switzerland (Bern, Fribourg, Geneva, Jura, Neuchâtel, Valais, Vaud)
- OR
- To be employed by an academic institution in the rest of Switzerland, Europe, or the Middle East

- To implement the project at least in part at Campus Biotech in Geneva, including the use of technological platforms:
  - preferably, for projects with applicant(s) from institutions in Western Switzerland
  - compulsorily, for projects with applicant(s) from Swiss/European/Middle Eastern institutions outside Western Switzerland (no less than 50% of the project costs)

SUBMISSIONS:

Deadline for submissions: 1 June 2021 (17:00 CEST)

For more information, please visit the webpage