



SSR 2019 RESEARCH SEED GRANT PROGRAM

As a member of the SSR we invite you to participate in the *Research Seed Grant Program*. This annual grant is intended to stimulate research on certain topics in Musculoskeletal Radiology considered by the SSR Research and Executive Committees to be important, yet under-represented, in the literature.

Award: up to \$2,000.00 to Principal Investigator

Eligibility: All SSR Members in good standing are eligible

DEADLINE FOR APPLICATION: FEBRUARY 25, 2019

The winner will be announced at the 2019 SSR Annual Meeting in March. Results will be presented by a podium presentation at the SSR 2020 Annual Meeting. Progress during the year will be reported in writing to the Research Committee, which will supply advice and mentorship as needed.

Application: Components must be submitted to the SSR Research Committee via email:
Gina@veritasmeetingsolutions.com

- 1) Specific aims (0.5 page)
- 2) Research plan (1.5 pages' maximum)
- 3) Brief biosketch of PI and collaborators; define roles in project
- 4) Summary statement of the clinical impact/need for this research

Topics to be considered:

1. *Imaging pain.*

Because we find many MRI findings in asymptomatic patients, and with the lack of clarity about what is "normal" in the aging population, it is important to guide the clinician to the source of a patient's pain. We need improved correlation of imaging findings with pain generators.

2. *Integration of Information from Multiple Imaging Techniques – “Multiparametric” Approach to Musculoskeletal Disease.*

This is most well known in the realm of oncology, but could apply to such entities as cartilage imaging (given the proliferation of cartilage sequences for example). Goal can be achieved using a combination of MR imaging sequences, or a combination of modalities and techniques.

3. *Gender Differences in Sports Medicine.*

Effect of gender difference on injury and associated disease is not well known in sports medicine.

4. *Demonstrating Added Value of Advanced imaging in Healthcare.*

Advanced imaging (particularly MRI) is typically considered a 'cost' in today's healthcare equation. However, we know that information acquired can help guide appropriate medical decision-making. Its early use may actually be seen as cost-effective in many situations.

5. *Demonstrating Added Value of Subspecialty Musculoskeletal Radiology.*

Subspecialists are typically considered a 'cost' in today's healthcare equation, to be used sparingly and only after rigorous evaluation by generalists. However, early subspecialty consultation may actually be cost-effective in many situations.

6. *Fast MR Imaging.*

With the emergence of new imaging techniques and better coils, a complete MRI examination can be performed much faster and with a clinically adequate number of sequences and image quality.

7. *Artificial Intelligence/Deep Learning.*

AI has great potential to help radiologists more efficiently interpret images, provide computer-aided detection of diagnoses, and perform automated report drafting.

For research specific questions, please contact me at cordleac@upmc.edu For general questions please contact SSR staff via the methods below.

Sincerely,
Andrew Cordle, MD, PhD
SSR Research Committee Chair