Purpose and Research Focus:
The mission of PenNSAM is to facilitate research in diet and nutrition focused on promoting health and reducing disease through the integration of clinical data, dietary survey instruments, and nutritional biomarkers with the latest modalities in molecular profiling and data analytics.

PenNSAM is issuing a request for pilot and feasibility applications to the research community at Penn and CHOP for projects focused on the use of analytic datasets (either pre-existing or newly generated), combined with bioinformatic, biomedical informatic and/or computational analyses, to characterize the human response to diet and nutrition. Data may be collected using a wide variety of modalities including, but not limited to traditional or new: Dietary survey instruments, physiological assessments of nutritional status, neurocognitive and/or behavioral assessments, genomics, metabolomics, immune profiling, and radiographically-based image derived phenotyping. Epidemiologic studies that utilize administrative datasets, including those generated using an electronic health record are also permitted. Awards are for 1 year projects with a budget of up to $40,000.

Eligibility:
All faculty members (including Instructors and Research Associates) of the university scientific community at Penn and CHOP who meet the eligibility requirements in one of these three categories are invited to submit proposals:

1. New investigators who have never held extramural support at the level of a NIH R01
2. Established investigators in other areas of biomedical research who wish to apply their expertise to a problem in dietary and/or nutrition research.
3. Established dietary and/or nutrition investigators who wish to study an area that represents a significant departure from currently funded work.

Applicants must be a U.S. Citizen or have a permanent visa.

Proposal Preparation:
1. Submit a pdf via email to Wade Kirkpatrick (Wade.Kirkpatrick@pennmedicine.upenn.edu). Complete proposals are due by 5:00 pm, Monday, March 21, 2022.

2. Format
   • Cover page: Includes title, an abstract of up to 250 words, type of application (see “Eligibility” for the three categories) and the approved or pending IRB protocol title and number for the clinical study pertaining to the proposed pilot
   • NIH biographical sketch
   • NIH other support
   • Budget and justification: one year up to $40,000, one page only.
   • Sections for the main proposal include specific aims, background, preliminary results, research plan, and future directions
   • Page limit for the main proposal: 4 pages total, including references

Award Terms:
• A final progress report is due one month after the close of the project period. The report will contain a one-page synopsis of scientific progress and a list of resulting collaborations, publications, and grants.
• Awardees may be asked to provide brief interim reports concerning research activities, resulting publications, and fundraising that may be highlighted at the annual PenNSAM symposium.

For additional information, please contact:
Gary D. Wu, MD
gdwu@pennmedicine.upenn.edu