

COVER PAGE

APPLICATION FOR USE OF RESEARCH FACILITIES CENTER OF ADVANCED IMAGING

INTRODUCTION

One of the primary goals of the research branch of the Center for Advanced Imaging is the initiation of new and innovative projects involving collaborators from diverse areas of interest. In order to equitably and effectively manage our resources, a method for approval of research projects and allocation of time for the research facilities at the Center for Advanced Imaging has been created. Researchers can apply for use of the four major research facilities with the Center: the Positron Emission Tomography (PET) facility, 1.5T Magnetic Resonance Imaging (1.5T MRI) facility, the 3T Magnetic Resonance Imaging (3T MRI) facility or the ERP/TMS facility. Applications will be reviewed by the Research Oversight Committee.

REVIEW CRITERIA

Proposed projects will be reviewed for innovation, and soundness of methods. Applicants with externally funded and non-funded projects will be required to complete the full application form. The review criteria will, however, be different for these two categories of projects. It is assumed that externally funded projects have previously undergone a rigorous review and are therefore appropriate for utilization of the Center's resources. It is also assumed, that prior to submission of the grant application the investigators have planned the imaging portions after consultation with appropriate members of the Center. The Committee will pay special attention to staffing considerations (is a technologist necessary to perform the studies?), data flow plans (where will the data be stored?) and requested time constraints (must the studies be performed during certain parts of the day?). It should be noted that a cursory review of the methods will be made to ensure that the project is suitable for the requested facility.

Applications for unfunded use of the facilities will undergo a much more rigorous review. Since these projects will require financial and/or technical support from the Department of Radiology, the criteria for approval are somewhat different than those for funded projects. Much more emphasis will be placed on the hypothesis, relevance, novelty and methods proposed for the study. In addition, the experience of the research team will be evaluated to ensure that the expertise necessary to effectively collect and analyze the imaging data in an efficient manner is present. It must be recognized that funded projects will have priority in the scheduling of studies.

APPLICATION FORMS

The CAI facilities application can be completed electronically when viewed with Acrobat Reader®. NOTE: Approval from the Institutional Review Board for the protection of human research subjects (IRB) and/or the Animal Care and Use Committee (ACUC) is a requirement for submission of an application. In addition, since the facilities at the Center possess some potentially very dangerous pieces of equipment, every member of the study who will enter the research facility must complete in-house safety training by an appropriate member of the Center's staff. Arrangements for the training should be made by contacting Dr. Raylman (293-1973). The date of completion of this training for each individual must be included on the application form. The Research Oversight Committee meets weekly; applications must be submitted to the CAI main office (Rm. B107) or emailed to mpettit@hsc.wvu.edu. Electronic submission is preferred. All inquires concerning the application process should be directed to Mary Pettit (293-6898).