

CIFASD Concept Proposal Protocol

Objective and General Guidelines

CIFASD encourages open communication within the consortium and seeks to foster innovative, transdisciplinary and translational research. To ensure that all investigators within the consortium are aware of ongoing analyses and to foster collaboration, CIFASD investigators will prepare a concept proposal as a means to describe for the group new hypotheses or new directions of analyses. The goal of the concept proposal is to encourage other CIFASD investigators to participate meaningfully to improve the quality and scope of research undertaken within the consortium.

CIFASD encourages junior investigators to take the lead on analyses and subsequent publications.

Concept Proposal Procedure

- 1) **Concept Proposal:** CIFASD investigators will complete the brief concept proposal which will be posted at the CIFASD website. The concept proposal template is brief and not binding and encompasses the following elements:
 - Brief summary of the hypothesis/concept
 - Scope of analysis/data
 - Timeline for completion
- 2) **CIFASD Investigator Review:** CIFASD investigators are encouraged to review concept proposals on a regular basis. CIFASD investigators are encouraged to comment upon pending concept proposals and when appropriate, indicate how they can contribute to the analysis.
- 3) **Evaluating potential collaboration:** The investigator proposing the concept proposal will respond to CIFASD investigators who comment upon pending proposals and in particular will discuss potential collaborative analyses that were proposed.
- 4) **Co-authors:** Those CIFASD investigators who contribute significantly to the ongoing analyses will be eligible for co-authorship. Criteria for authorship vary between institutions and journals; links to some widely reported standards are listed below.
 - Harvard: <http://hms.harvard.edu/about-hms/integrity-academic-medicine/hms-policy/faculty-policies-integrity-science/authorship-guidelines>
 - Washington University, St. Louis: <http://wustl.edu/policies/authorship.html>