

## Process for Nominating a Compound for Testing by the TSC Preclinical Consortium

The Preclinical Consortium engages academic researchers and pharmaceutical industry researchers to accelerate development of new therapies for TSC. A Steering Committee sets the long-term goals, and Working Groups decide the best models and experimental design for drug testing and provide oversight for rigorous quality control and interpretation of results. Compounds are handled and tested by experienced providers, and data are shared among the Consortium. All members can propose compounds for testing and benefit from the shared data.

The process described here is for nomination of compounds for which experiments will be run at no cost to Academic Members and data will be shared among all members of the Preclinical Consortium. The nominating principal investigator (PI) will be the scientific leader of the project, responsible for taking the lead on publication of results and designing any subsequent experiments. Acknowledgement of the Consortium in any publications utilizing the results is required, but co-authorship of other Consortium members is not required unless the PI chooses to collaborate with one or more members. The PI will have a year to follow up on results and work toward publication before data will be released publicly, and the PI may request a six-month extension if necessary.

Additionally, Company Members may submit compounds for testing and retain confidentiality and ownership of data by paying for experiments as defined in the Consortium Operating Agreement. Companies interested in nominating compounds and retaining confidentiality and ownership of data should not utilize the nomination form and should contact Dean Aguiar ([daguiar@tsalliance.org](mailto:daguiar@tsalliance.org)) and Steve Roberds ([sroberds@tsalliance.org](mailto:sroberds@tsalliance.org)) directly.

### Compound Nomination Form

The PI must complete the one-page nomination form, available in Microsoft Word format on the TS Alliance's Preclinical Consortium [web page](#). The PI must also attach no more than two pages of text and/or figures describing the rationale for the compound and its mechanism of action for treating TSC.

Nominations may be made anytime but will be evaluated in batches twice each year:

- Submissions received on or before June 15 will be evaluated by July 31.
- Submissions received on or before December 15 will be evaluated by February 15.

The one-page compound nomination form, one or two pages of text and/or figures, and the PI's NIH-style biosketch must be submitted by email to Zoë Fuchs ([zfuchs@tsalliance.org](mailto:zfuchs@tsalliance.org)) and Dean Aguiar ([daguiar@tsalliance.org](mailto:daguiar@tsalliance.org)).

## Selection Process

Nominations will be reviewed by the Consortium's Working Groups, who will prioritize the nominations and forward recommendations to the Consortium's Steering Committee. The Steering Committee will prioritize compounds across the different models and mechanisms of action, and compounds will be tested as soon as possible based on availability of animals, time, and funds.

Criteria used to evaluate and prioritize compound nominations will include, but are not necessarily limited to:

- Significance: rationale for relevance to TSC.
- Impact: whether the compound is a tool compound or a clinical candidate, there should be a path forward toward patient benefit if the compound has activity.
- Innovation: novelty of the mechanism or superiority of the compound over other compounds with a similar mechanism of action.
- Pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics: the degree of target (receptor, enzyme, etc.) engagement should be known or predictable based on existing data to ensure an appropriate dose and route of administration can be chosen.

The PI may be contacted for additional information during the review process.

Please contact Dean Aguiar ([daguiar@tsalliance.org](mailto:daguiar@tsalliance.org)) or Steve Roberds ([sroberds@tsalliance.org](mailto:sroberds@tsalliance.org)) with any questions.