

For Immediate Release

U.S. Poultry & Egg Association

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USPOULTRY Accepting Board Research Initiative Preproposals on Combatting Clostridial Diseases in Poultry

USPOULTRY and the USPOULTRY Foundation are accepting research preproposals from colleges, universities and research facilities through Nov. 1, addressing combatting clostridial diseases in poultry. Poultry health and well-being is a major focus for the broiler chicken industry in the current era of ‘no antibiotic ever’ farming. Specifically, intestinal health has suffered greatly as a result of the restricted use of antibiotics on broiler farms that has resulted in increased mortality, decreased feed efficiency and increased economic costs for broiler farmers. One of the major concerns that has resurfaced is Necrotic enteritis (NE), which is caused by toxin-producing virulent *Clostridium perfringens* bacterium. The global losses due to NE, one of the most devastating enteric diseases, are more than \$6 billion/year and finding ‘alternatives to antibiotics’ is very important.

Gangrenous dermatitis (GD) is a common disease of turkeys and broiler chickens caused by various species of anaerobic and aerobic bacteria, including several clostridial species. The disease is characterized by a sudden increase in mortality and lesions in the skin, subcutaneous tissue, and the underlying muscles, usually over the keel, abdomen, thigh and wings of the bird. GD is a disease of considerable economic significance in poultry and occurs throughout the world.

The goal of this initiative is to encourage research that will enhance industry efforts to consider non-antibiotic alternatives and to improve understanding about the pathways for clostridial infections in poultry. The research areas of focus should be on identifying non-antibiotic approaches to prevent, reduce and control NE in broiler chickens and GD in turkeys and broiler chickens. The research should also define the pathogenesis of NE in broiler chickens and GD in turkeys and broiler chickens.

Visit the USPOULTRY [website](#) for complete instructions to submit a preproposal.

About USPOULTRY

U.S. Poultry & Egg Association (USPOULTRY) is the All Feather Association progressively serving its poultry and egg members through research, education, communications and technical services. Founded in 1947, USPOULTRY is based in Tucker, Georgia.

About USPOULTRY Foundation

The USPOULTRY Foundation's mission is to support the recruitment and training of the brightest students, seek and fund scientific research, foster student scientists and promote careers in the poultry and egg industry.