

**Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research
Grant Milestones and Deliverables**

from:

Measuring and Improving Impact
A Toolkit for Nonprofit Funders of Medical Research

FasterCures, March 2013

The Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research manages its grantees (whether from academia or industry) more closely than most foundations. Its awards are milestone-based and linked to go/no-go decisions along the way. The Foundation's internal scientific staff check in regularly with grantees to ensure they are making progress and to identify and try to address roadblocks early to help move the research along. Some specific examples of deliverables and milestones have included:



Project deliverables

- > Determine whether data collected at initial clinical presentation predict disease progression
- > Determine whether non-traditional assessments at initial presentation predict disease progression

Milestones

- > Key personnel are in place as of second month of project
- > IRB approval has been secured as of [DATE]
- > Database is locked to perform analyses as of third month of project

Project milestones with go/no-go indications

- > Synthesis of compounds: Demonstrate that some compounds are neuroprotective. If compounds do not show neuroprotection, project is terminated.
- > Establish one-to-two cell-based assays, first cohort of transgenic mice grown: Assays are fully operational at [DATE] and mice should be six months old by end of year.
- > Screen top lead compounds for best “drugability” features, continue growing transgenic mice to reach 12 months: Identify top X compounds to be used in animal testing studies based on analysis of all functional, “drugability,” safety and pharmacokinetic data. Mice should be ready for in vivo testing. If no satisfactory compounds are identified, project may be terminated.

View the full report: <http://www.fastercures.org/reports/view/16>