

**SOMETHING  
BETTER  
THAN HOPE**

## **Overview of GWG Recruitment Process**

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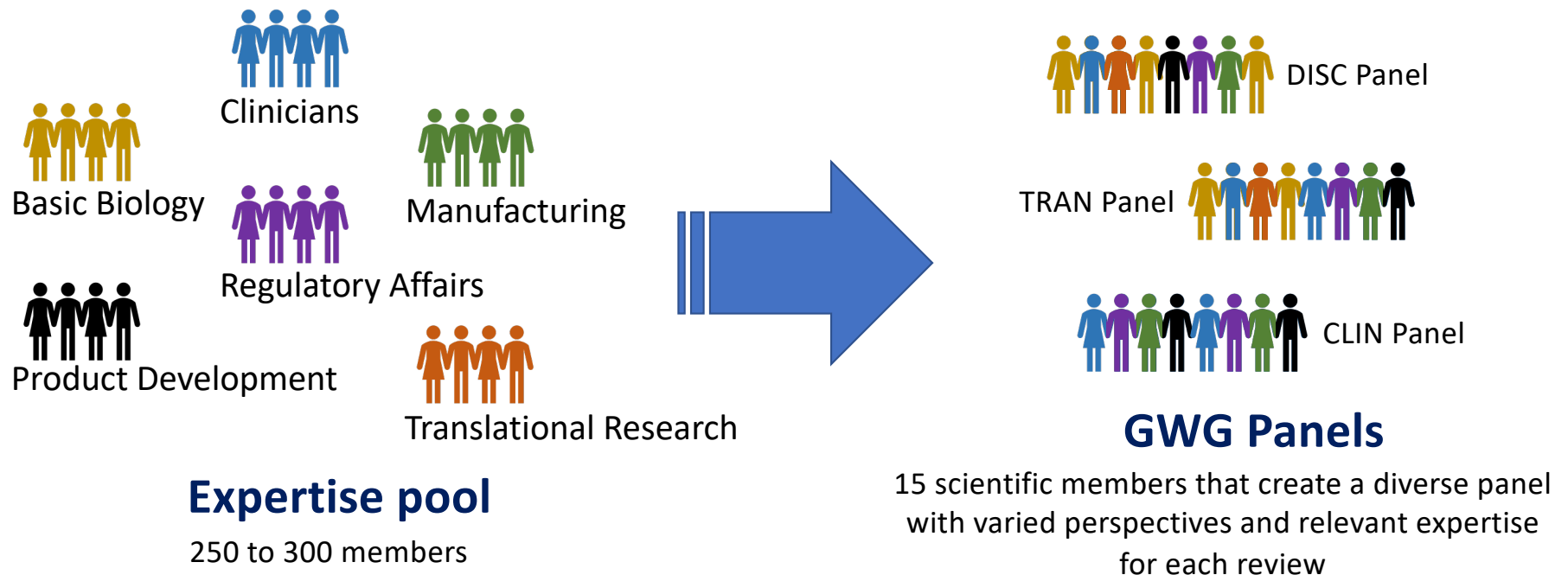
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**CIRM**  
CALIFORNIA / STEM CELL AGENCY

# Background

- The CIRM Grants Working Group (GWG) is responsible for evaluating the scientific merit of all applications submitted to CIRM and to provide funding recommendations to the ICOC.
- The GWG is composed of:
  - 15 scientific members (not in California)
  - 7 patient advocate members of the ICOC
  - Chair of the ICOC, ex officio
- The GWG must evaluate proposals across all five pillars of Discovery, Translation, Clinical, Education and Infrastructure.
- This presentation will review proposed process for addressing expertise needs and recruiting GWG scientific members.

# CIRM maintains and intends to grow a large pool of experts to cover expertise needs

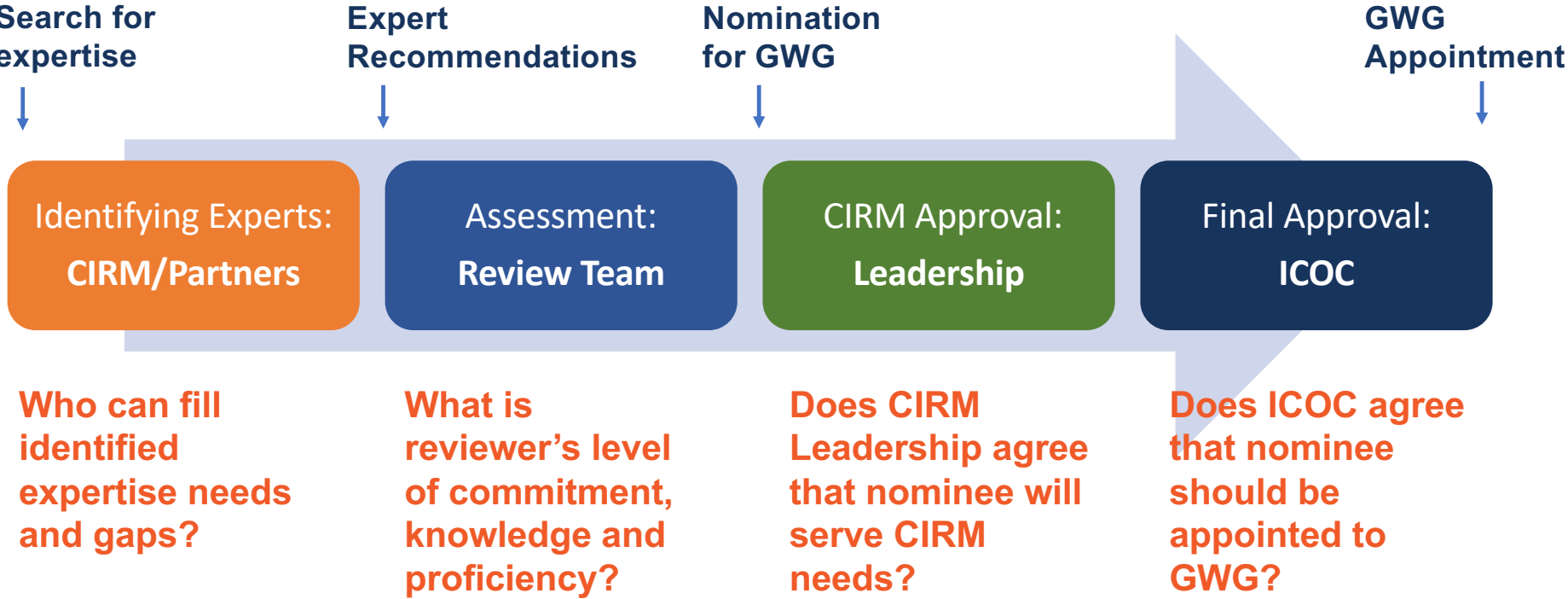


# Determining Gaps

Assembling GWG panels requires having enough available experts that can address proposals from varied perspectives.

- Diverse backgrounds and experiences
- Multiple scientific perspectives:
  - Stage of therapy development (e.g., clinical, translational, discovery)
  - Field of study (e.g., neuroscience, immunology, human development)
  - Disease indication (e.g., diabetes, COVID-19, vascular disease)
  - Therapeutic approach (e.g., gene therapy, cell therapy, devices)
  - Proposed activities (e.g., product manufacturing, clinical trial, imaging)
  - Technology (e.g., CRISPR, lentiviral vectors, instrumentation for delivery)
- Availability of experts to cover large number of proposals

# Overview of GWG Recruitment Process



## Identifying Experts:

# Who can fill identified expertise needs and gaps?

- ✓ Identify recognized experts in the field of interest through scientific literature, relevant scientific meetings, and membership in scientific societies/organizations
- ✓ Solicit recommendations from current GWG members, CIRM scientific team, CIRM applicants/grantees, ICOC members
- Partnership with renowned scientific membership organizations to increase the pool of reviewers with depth and breadth of scientific expertise *in progress*

Assessment:  
Review Team

# What is reviewer's level of commitment, knowledge and proficiency?

- Recognized expertise in the field/area of interest
  - Publication record demonstrating first-hand knowledge and experience
  - Invited speaker to recognized scientific meetings in field/area
  - Academic/company/government position that demonstrates leadership and experience in field
  - Awards and honors that highlight scientific accomplishments
  - Recommendations from other funding agencies/scientific societies
- Experience with grant or similar review for NIH, DOD, Non-Profit foundations or similar organizations
- Initial participation as a (non-voting, non-scoring) Specialist reviewer for CIRM
  - Assess follow through and understanding of the review process including review of assigned applications, completion of critiques, and participation in GWG meetings
  - Demonstrates knowledge, thoughtfulness, and thoroughness when evaluating and discussing proposals

CIRM Approval:  
Leadership

Does CIRM Leadership agree that nominee will serve CIRM needs?

- ✓ CIRM Review Team contributes nominees for GWG based on addressing expertise needs, diversifying panels, and demonstrated commitment to CIRM reviews
- ✓ Nominees are reviewed by CIRM Leadership Team to ensure they will serve the CIRM needs
- ✓ Final list of nominees are approved by President and VP of Review



Final Approval:  
ICOC

Does the ICOC agree that nominee should be appointed to GWG?

CIRM will provide list of nominees to ICOC with:

- ✓ Biography that includes description of area of expertise, scientific/medical training, affiliations, honors/accomplishments
- ✓ Specific gap or need that nominee fulfills
- ✓ How nominee was identified (e.g., recommendation from ISSCR)
- ✓ History of service to CIRM (e.g., specialist reviewer, CAP advisor)

