PROPOSAL BODY

**Underlying Biology/Technology:** Applicants should clearly delineate the biology and/or technology behind their proposed product. The rationale behind the proposed translational objectives should be evident from this description. Target the description towards peer scientists who are not experts in the field. Applicants are highly encouraged to include relevant preliminary data and utilize the three allowed figures to support their scientific rationale. Each figure should be directly referenced in the text (Figure 1). Applicants must have a novel approach that will lead to a first-in-class therapeutic, defined as having a novel mechanism or therapeutic approach in the Parkinson’s disease space.

**Clinical Indication, Targeted Patient Population, and Market Scope:** The proposed product should be applied in the Parkinson’s Disease space. If the product serves a subpopulation of Parkinson’s disease patients, the applicant should clearly define the subpopulation and how the project plans to identify the indicated patients. SPARK NS has a strong preference for proposed therapeutics that will be disease-modifying rather than those that solely address symptoms. For help in determining a market scope, applicants may consult *A Practical Guide to Drug Development in Academia* (<https://link.springer.com/book/10.1007/978-3-031-34724-5>).

**Unmet Need and Standard of Care:** Applications must clearly define an unmet clinical need in the Parkinson’s disease space. Applicants should describe how their proposed product will address the unmet clinical need in comparison to the current standard of care.

**Translational Objective:** SPARK NS will accept projects into the Program at any stage of development between target identification and entry into clinical trials. However, selected projects will have translational objectives with a high probability of being accomplished.

**Intellectual Property Status:** Applicants should describe whether patent applications relevant to the proposal have been submitted, published, and/or granted (secured IP is not a criterion for acceptance to the Program).

**Note: there is a strict 3-page limit for the proposal body. Please use 11-point Arial font, 1-inch margins, and 1.5 line spacing (this template follows the formatting requirements).**