

Clinical & Translational Science Center Newsletter

May 2022

Letter from the Director



Dear Colleagues,

Spring is here and so the warmer weather. As we continue into the fourth quarter it's time to start planning your research projects for FY2023. New funding opportunities can now be found online at <https://hsc.unm.edu/research/news/funding-ops.html>.

I am pleased to tell you about some of the high impact studies that the CTSC is supporting.

With support from our clinical trials unit (PCI), and many other units of the CTSC Dr. Allen Adolphe is conducting a FOCUS trial to examine the long-term effects of semaglutide treatments on diabetic retinopathy development and progression in subjects with type 2 diabetes (T2D). The primary objective of this trial is to establish the long-term effects of semaglutide on diabetic retinopathy in subjects with T2D using validated and standardized ophthalmic assessments. The key secondary objectives are to assess the effects of treatment with semaglutide compared to placebo, both added to standard-of-care, with regards to visual acuity, diabetic retinopathy manifestations and diabetic retinopathy treatments.

Our Community Engagement Research (CERC) team are supporting Dr. Pilar Sanjuan and her research team to demonstrate that opioid use disorder (OUD) during pregnancy is an important health problem. The research team is in the process of submitting the study proposal to the HRPO. This project will be a sub study within Dr. Sanjuan's current study "Project Vida II" and is funded by the NIH/National Institute on Drug Abuse (R21DA048058).

Dr. Jessica Gross, of the CTSC BERD Core is assisting Dr. Gadomski with the analyses for a study entitled: Descriptive Study: A Novel Model for the Delivery of Full Spectrum Care for Persons with Opioid Use Disorder. This study investigates medical service utilization among patients with opioid use disorder. Dr. Gadomski's study tracks utilization of buprenorphine-naloxone at a low-threshold/low-barrier, mobile care clinic that provides on-demand primary care and behavioral health services. His research furthers our understanding of the effectiveness of this alternative treatment

approach, and it will ultimately aid in expanding access to treatment to this hard-to-reach, vulnerable population.

The Office of Research was able to support the Brain and Behavioral Health Institute (BBHI) for their Annual Research Day gain over 200 participants. On campus participation covered over 30 UNM departments and centers, with nearly 70 posters being presented. The BBHI has expressed their gratitude to the Office of Research, event sponsors, and 30+ volunteers for helping to support the event and help with the excellent turnout.

Every part of the CTSC is integral to our purpose and funding, and we aim to update each section of the CTSC newsletter monthly. Each PI has a personal, professional investment in the information we provide. Please submit that information to our team. The CTSC is here for your support.

The dedicated faculty, staff, and students at CTSC continue their research projects and look for innovative ways to support our communities. If you are interested in a rigorous quantitative rural research project focused on COVID-19, please contact me (RLarson@salud.unm.edu) to start a dialogue.

Masks are still required indoors for all staff in all clinical areas at the HSC, but are now optional for staff in non-clinical areas. Stay abreast of the current policies by exploring the University's Bring Back the Pack COVID-19 guidance: <https://bringbackthepack.unm.edu>.

The Health Sciences Center Office of Research website contains information on specific research-related updates (including the Research Continuity Guidelines for both [Laboratories & Research Facilities](#) and [Clinical Trial Research Faculty & Staff](#)) and can be accessed through the following link: <https://hsc.unm.edu/research/>.

All standard CTSC services are available. We encourage PIs to reach out to our Research Concierge (HSC-CTSCResearchConcierge@salud.unm.edu) with questions and/or to setup a consultation with the CTSC team.

If you have any questions about our assets and services, please contact the CTSC Research Concierge at HSC-CTSCResearchConcierge@salud.unm.edu. If you have any issues finding the information that you need, please reach out to [the CTSC Newsletter Team](#) and they will get back to you.

As always, thank you so much for your continued support of the Clinical & Translational Science Center!

Warm regards,

Richard S. Larson, MD, PhD
PI, CEO and Director, Clinical & Translational Science Center

CTSC Leadership

CTSC Director, CEO & Principal Investigator: Richard S. Larson, MD, PhD

Associate Director, CTSC: Matthew Campen, PhD

Associate Director, CTSC: Nancy Pandhi, MD, PhD, MPH

Chief Administrative Officer: Carla Cordova, MPH

Administrative Component Director: Beth Tigges, PhD, RN, PNP, BC
Tracking & Evaluation Module Lead: Beth Tigges, PhD, RN, PNP, BC
Quality & Efficiency Module Lead: Beth Tigges, PhD, RN, PNP, BC
Informatics Component Director: Christophe Lambert, PhD
Community & Collaboration Component Director: Mark Unruh, MD
Community Engagement Module Lead: Nancy Pandhi, MD, PhD, MPH
Collaboration and Commercialization Module Lead: Eric Prossnitz, PhD
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Translational Workforce Development (TWD) Module Lead: Karlett Parra, PhD
Pilot Translational & Clinical Studies (PTC) Module Lead: Corey Ford, MD, PhD
Research Methods (RM) Component Director: Mark Unruh, MD
Biostatistics, Epidemiology & Research Design (BERD) Module Lead: Mark Unruh, MD
Regulatory Knowledge & Support (RKS) Module Lead: Corey Ford, MD, PhD
Hub Research Capacity (HRC) Component Director: Nancy Pandhi, MD, PhD, MPH
Integration of Special Populations (ISP) Module Lead: Nancy Pandhi, MD, PhD, MPH
Participant Clinical Interactions (PCI) Director: Christopher Abbott, MD
Network Capacity (NC) Component Director: Hengameh Raissy, PharmD
Trial Innovation Network (TIN) Module Lead: Hengameh Raissy, PharmD
Drug Discovery & Repurposing Core Lead: TBD
Opioid-Use Populations with Integration, Outreach, Informatics, and Drug Discovery (OPIOIDD) Module Lead: Kimberly Page, PhD, MPH
KL2 Mentored Career Development Component Director: Matt Campen, PhD
Clinical Laboratory Medical Director: Qian-Yun Zhang, MD, PhD

Featured Stories

Participation Clinical Interactions (PCI)

Dr. Allen Adolphe, Department of Internal Medicine, is conducting the FOCUS trial to examine the long-term effects of semaglutide treatments on diabetic retinopathy development and progression in subjects with type 2 diabetes (T2D).

While it is well-established that long-term good glycaemic control will reduce the risk of diabetic retinopathy development and progression, intensification of glycaemic control has also been associated with an initial worsening of diabetic retinopathy. This phenomenon is known as “early worsening”. The primary objective of this trial is to establish the long-term effects of semaglutide on diabetic retinopathy in subjects with T2D using validated and standardized ophthalmic assessments. The key secondary objectives are to assess the effects of treatment with semaglutide compared to placebo, both added to standard-of-care, with regards to visual acuity, diabetic retinopathy manifestations and diabetic retinopathy treatments.

The FOCUS trial is a randomized, double-masked, parallel-group, placebo-controlled trial comparing the effects of semaglutide versus placebo both administered subcutaneously once-weekly and added to standard-of-care in subjects with inadequately controlled T2D.

This is a multicenter effort that plans to enroll up to 1500 participants. This study will follow participants for 260 weeks of treatment plus the follow-up period of five weeks after end of treatment. The CTSC is supporting this study on many levels, CTSC regulatory support, Participant Recruitment Service (PRS) and PCI coordination.

If you have any questions about PCI services, please contact George Garcia, gemgarcia@salud.unm.edu.

<http://hsc.unm.edu/research/ctsc/participant-clinical-interactions/index.html>

Community Engagement and Research Core (CERC)

“IMPOWR Pilot Project: Ecological Momentary Assessment of Chronic Pain, Posttraumatic Stress Symptoms, and Opioid Use among Pregnant Women Treated with Medications for Opioid Use Disorder”

Research demonstrates that opioid use disorder (OUD) during pregnancy is an important health problem. To improve outcomes for women in treatment and their children, it is essential to understand the bidirectional effects of OUD use and the common comorbidity of posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD) among pregnant women to understand the factors that contribute to the high rates of this comorbidity in this gender-specific understudied population. Dr. Pilar Sanjuan, Associate Professor in the Department of Family and Community Medicine, and her research team will be conducting a study to determine how chronic pain factors mediate the role of PTSD fluctuations on opioid use. With the long term aim of developing improved mobile health treatments tailored for pregnant women with chronic pain, trauma, and OUD and informing clinicians about the lived

experiences of pregnant women with OUD and chronic pain. The CERC team will be leading the qualitative data collection and support future research analysis and dissemination.

The research team is in the process of submitting the study proposal to the HRPO and CTSC CERC team will be providing support to this project. This project will be a sub study within Dr. Sanjuan's current study "Project Vida II" and is funded by the NIH / National Institute on Drug Abuse (R21DA048058).

For more information about CERC services, please contact Donna Sedillo at: dlsedillo@salud.unm.edu

Biostatistics, Epidemiology, and Research Design (BERD)

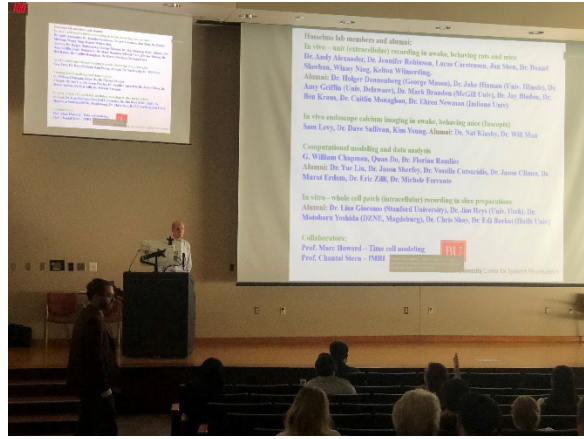
Dr. Richard Gadomski, a clinician and Professor in the Department of Psychiatry, is the Principal Investigator of a study entitled: *Descriptive Study: A Novel Model for the Delivery of Full Spectrum Care for Persons with Opioid Use Disorder*. This study investigates medical service utilization among patients with opioid use disorder. Dr. Jessica Gross, of the CTSC BERD Core is assisting Dr. Gadomski with the analyses for this study.

Heroin, fentanyl, and other prescription opioids were the leading cause of death for people under age 50 in 2019, and were responsible for over 70% of deaths due to drug overdose in 2020. Given this high prevalence and its severe consequences, it is important to provide timely and effective intervention. Traditional intervention consists of methadone administered in opioid treatment programs. However, a large subset of the affected population does not have access to these programs due in part to difficulty in finding a provider, long wait lists, and strict treatment compliance requirements. Low-threshold/low-barrier programs aim to eliminate these barriers to treatment. Buprenorphine-naloxone is an effective alternative treatment, but, unlike methadone, it can be prescribed at any location where a medical provider practices. Dr. Gadomski's study tracks utilization of buprenorphine-naloxone at a low-threshold/low-barrier, mobile care clinic that provides on-demand primary care and behavioral health services. His research furthers our understanding of the effectiveness of this alternative treatment approach, and it will ultimately aid in expanding access to treatment to this hard-to-reach, vulnerable population.

Please visit our web site: <http://hsc.unm.edu/research/ctsc/biostatistics/index.html>.

Behavioral Health Institute (BBHI Annual Research Day)

A massive congratulations to the Brain and Behavioral Health Institute (BBHI) for the success of their Annual Research Day, held April 8th. The event had over 200 participants, with nine outside organizations joining. On campus participation covered over 30 UNM departments and centers, including both main and north campuses. Nearly 70 posters were presented, six from outside organizations, over 20 from UNM, and nearly 50 posters for the opt-in competition. The BBHI has expressed their gratitude to the Office of Research, event sponsors, and 30+ volunteers for helping to support the event and help with the excellent turnout. The event was graciously sponsored by UNM Center for Memory and Aging, HSC Office of Research, UNM Neurosciences, UNM Neurology, UNM Psychiatry & Behavioral Sciences, UNM Southwest Clinical Trails Network, UNM Cellular and Molecular Basis of Disease (CMBD) Program and [UNM College of Pharmacy](#). Please see below for some photos of the exciting event.



Menu of Services & Resources

- [Biostatistics Support](#)
- [Brain & Behavioral Disorders](#)
- [Citing the Clinical & Translational Science Center](#)
- [Clinical Trials Participant Clinical Interactions](#)
- [Community Engagement](#)
- [Community Health Network](#)
- [Database Mining](#)
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- [KL2 Scholars](#)
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- [Rural Health Research](#)

- [Team Science & Commercialization](#)
- [Training](#)
- [Vulnerable Populations](#)

Administration

Tracking & Evaluation (T&E)

The Tracking and Evaluation Team is piloting a new "Common Metric" called the Median Accrual Metric. This metric is intended to look at our CTSC's ability to recruit and retain research participants. This metric will look at the entire calendar year for 2020 and will be reported in fall 2021.

Quality & Efficiency (Q&E)

The Quality and Efficiency Team continues to work on two specific process improvements initiatives. These two projects concluded in June of 2021 and will be evaluated for how the projects impacted our CTSC.

Informatics

Cerner Real World Data is a de-identified national database containing much of the structured data in the Cerner medical record. It's less well known, that UNM investigators can limit their search of this database to study UNM only. For investigators interested in answering questions about the mental health of New Mexicans, and especially the mental health of children in New Mexico, it remains an invaluable available resource that can be used to answer questions in light of New Mexico's recent mental health privacy laws. Professor Rochelle Lenroot, is currently working with CTSC informaticists and biostatisticians to answer questions about the demographic, clinical and service-related trends of children using emergency psychiatric services at UNM before COVID-19, and the impact COVID-19 has had on these trends.

If you would like to get a research question feasibility count or have potential research data questions please contact Marguerite Valencia-Reed mvalencia-reed@salud.unm.edu or Harry Snow hsnow@salud.unm.edu.

<https://hsc.unm.edu/research/ctsc/informatics/index.html>

Community & Collaboration (C&C)

Team Science & Commercialization

Why is teamwork an essential skill for a scientist?

Teamwork in science is key to innovation and discovery is that it is impossible to keep up with the incredible speed of scientific knowledge creation. According to this report in Nature, over 300,000 scientific papers were published by United States researchers in 2012 alone.

June 25, 2013

[Sustainable Nano](#) a blog by the NSF Center for Sustainable Nanotechnology

[Teamwork Wins! Why Science Is Not an Individual Sport.](#)

Posted by Laura Olenick

Team Science Conference. The International Network for the Science of Team Science (INSciTS) announced plans for the 13th Annual International Science of Team Science Conference, to be held in Bethesda, MD, USA, from July 31 to August 3. The planning committee is planning a hybrid event to support both in-person and virtual friendly attendees. Opening keynote address will be by Dr. Wanda E. Ward, Executive Associate Chancellor for Public Engagement, Office of the Chancellor, University of Illinois Urbana- Champaign. For more information about the conference [visit the ISciTS website, https://sts.memberclicks.net/](https://sts.memberclicks.net/)

UNM HSC CTSC invite you to participate in our other Team Science focused activities:

The CTSC Translation Synergy Meetings welcome both specific and interdisciplinary research communities, from early-career scientists, established investigators, to students as we strive to enable better networking, collaborating, teaching, and leading. April Synergy meetings included:

- Dr. Eliseo Castillo's KL2 Program Completion presentation. Dr Castillo is an Assistant Professor in the Division of Gastroenterology and Hepatology, presented his achievements during his KL2 research project: *Keeping the immune system in check to prevent intestinal inflammation*
- We welcomed guest speaker, Clare Thibodeaux, PhD, Vice President, Scientific Affairs from Cures Within Reach. This special panel presentation focused on research and funding opportunities for drug repurposing.

If you would like to be a speaker or are seeking collaboration opportunities, [contact Melanie Hazlett](#), CTSC Team Strategist, about the Fall 2022 CTSC Synergy Meetings.

CTSC annual BioVenture Partnership Event. Planning has commenced for the Fall 2022 BioVenture Partnership Event. Open to faculty, residents, students, and the community this event aims to create important connections between UNM HSC Research and local biotech business; interested in developing partnerships, to build long-term interorganizational relationships while boosting the state's biotech economy and expanding health care innovation in our state. The event activities include a Scientific Poster session and Pitch Competition. More information will be forthcoming, bookmark the [CTSC BioVenture webpage](#) to find the latest information.

The CTSC office supports many Commercialization efforts by participating with [The ASCEND \(Accelerating Solutions for Commercialization and Entrepreneurial Development\)](#) Hub. The focus of this program is to increase entrepreneurship and commercialization of basic medical science in the mountain west states. Visit the ASCEND Hub website to learn more about what resources are available to you: <https://ascendhub.org>.

<https://hsc.unm.edu/research/ctsc/programs/team-science.html>

Translational Endeavors (TE)i

Translational Workforce Development (TWD)

Translational Workforce Development has numerous [course offerings](#) and can even provide consultations as requested to assist you in your goals! Please request a [consultation](#) or additional

information on any courses offered. The TWD team may be reached via HSC-CTSC-TWDTraining@salud.unm.edu.

For information regarding TWD, please visit our webpage:
<https://hsc.unm.edu/research/ctsc/training/index.html>

Pilot Awards

The UNM Clinical & Translational Science Center (CTSC) is soliciting applications from all HSC faculty members— senior as well as junior investigators— in response to the following pilot Request For Application.

We strongly encourage investigators to meet with the CTSC Research Concierge, HSC-CTSCResearchConcierge@salud.unm.edu, early in the planning and writing phases of their proposals in order to discuss CTSC resources required. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact Christina Anderson, CTSC Pilot Program Specialist, at ChAnderson@salud.unm.edu.

Reminder of the new timeline for pilot submissions in March.

November 11, 2021 Request for Applications Release Date

January 21, 2022 IRB Submission Deadline

Note: Any application without IRB submission prior to this date will be administratively disqualified

March 18, 2022 Application Deadline in Camino

IRB Approval Deadline

Note: Any application without IRB approval by this date will not be considered for funding.

April 11, 2022 Notice of Intend to Fund/Decline

May 13, 2022 Announce Awards

June 1, 2022 Funding Begins

May 31, 2023 Funding Ends

Pilot Award

As part of our CTSC award, NIH has identified the need to speed the movement of clinical research findings into the everyday practice of health care delivery. The purpose of this award is to support pilot projects that utilize CTSC infrastructure to produce preliminary data for competitive NIH grant proposals in clinical and translational (T1, T2, T3, and T4) research.

Linking Clinical Trials to Drug Discovery and Repurposing Award

This RFA is a solicitation of applications from active CTSC investigators for projects that will link clinical research with drug discovery efforts in the Center for Molecular Discovery. The goal of this program is to: 1) develop cell-based assays for use in high-throughput screening, 2) to use these cell-based assays for the identification of drugs for clinical repurposing efforts, and 3) to utilize these previously FDA

CTSC/DCI Kidney Pilot Project Award

The CTSC, in conjunction with Dialysis Clinic, Inc. (DCI), are soliciting applications for pilot projects that will exemplify the CTSC mission of developing clinical and translational research with an emphasis on kidney disease, hypertension, and/or kidney transplantation. The purpose of this RFA is to support pilot projects that utilize the CTSC infrastructure to produce preliminary data for competitive NIH grant proposals in kidney disease, hypertension, and/or kidney transplantation clinical and translational (T1, T2, T3, and T4) research.

Innovation & Commercialization Award

The purpose of this RFA is to support innovative, high-risk/high-reward pilot projects to produce preliminary data for competitive NIH proposals in clinical and translational research. Most awards will be expected to seek NIH funding, most likely through an SBIR/STTR mechanism. These projects are intended to provide the preliminary data and initial corporate relationships to develop technology and move it towards successful commercialization.

Wicked Problems: Target Pilot Project Award

The National CTSA Network has identified a list of common and/or emerging problems (“wicked problems”) that require urgent scientific solution. The purpose of this RFA is to support pilot projects that tackle one of the targeted wicked problems listed below relating to data sharing and protection, big data, datasets or research collaboration:

- Data Sharing
- Big data to alter practice/diagnosis
- Use of multiple datasets
- Access to resources to address labor-intensive activities
- Privacy and data protection for research
- Removing institutional bottlenecks/sharing of resources
- Evaluating the impact of translational research efforts
- Implementing scientific review before studies are performed
- Dissemination and implementation Science
- EHR data integration
- Defining Impact for the CTSA Program
- Building a KL2 Scholar Community
- Addressing challenges in recruiting from rural sites
- Hub Stability

Mentored Career Development Program (KL2)

The KL2 program equips a cohort of independent faculty with the training and support needed to conduct exceptional clinical and translational research. KL2 Scholars receive training and mentorship in multi-disciplinary, team-based, and patient-oriented clinical and translational research. KL2 Scholars become leaders and innovators in their respective professional fields and departments.

Based on a NIH-style competitive application process, a scientific review panel selects scholars to develop their research portfolios by receiving 75% salary support for up to five years. The goal of this program is to foster the discipline of clinical research and, by increasing clinical research capacity, to expedite clinical and translational research.

<https://hsc.unm.edu/ctsc/programs/mentored-career-development.html>

Research Methods (RM)

Biostatistics, Epidemiology, and Research Design (BERD)

Biostatistics Consultation Services Available at CTSC

The Biostatistics, Epidemiology, and Research Design (BERD) Core provides consultation and services, novel tools and methods intended to solve problems, and address barriers to the conduct of clinical and translational research. Services are open to all Health Sciences investigators (staff, students, and faculty) to understand the methodological aspects of their research for planning their projects, including power analysis, sample size, and research design for intermural and extramural grant submissions.

If you have a current pilot study that requires biostatistical support, please schedule appointments as soon as possible.

Are you interested in applying for a pilot study? It is strongly recommended that you make an appointment with one of our biostatisticians prior to your submission. Our expert biostatisticians can help in the initial stages of project development.

Appointments are available; but do fill up quickly. To schedule an appointment, please contact HSC-CTSCbiostats@salud.unm.edu. Services are offered Monday through Friday.

Please visit our web site: <http://hsc.unm.edu/research/ctsc/biostatistics/index.html>.

Regulatory Knowledge & Support (RKS)

IRB Turnaround Metrics

We are proud to share that the UNM HSC IRB turnaround time last quarter is half that of the national average (42 days nationally, 21 days at HSC). The total turnaround time for a new research project submission, including all regulatory reviews (Data Use, Privacy, IT Security, Radiation Safety, Biosafety, Conflict of Interest, and IRB) is lower than the national average for IRB metrics alone. See tables below for full details.

2015-2022, JANUARY 1 – DECEMBER 31

TURNAROUND TIMES OF NEW STUDIES APPROVED BY THE CONVENEED UNM HEALTH SCIENCES IRB

Submission to approval.
The "TTC Metric" is limited to calendar days from date of IRB review to distribution of approval letter.
Excludes: Deferred studies

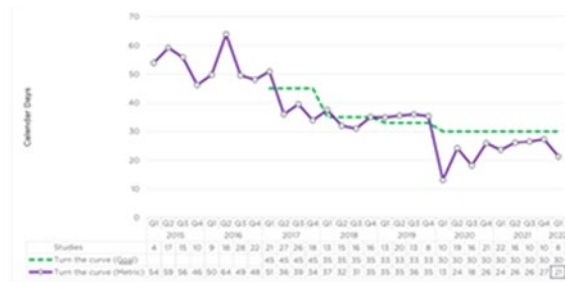


Figure 1b. Turnaround times of new studies approved by the convened UNM Health Sciences IRB.

FIGURES

2015-2022, JANUARY 1 – DECEMBER 31

TURNAROUND TIMES OF NEW STUDIES APPROVED BY THE CONVENEED UNM HEALTH SCIENCES IRB

Research Project total review times.
Includes: Auxiliary Reviews
Excludes: Deferred studies

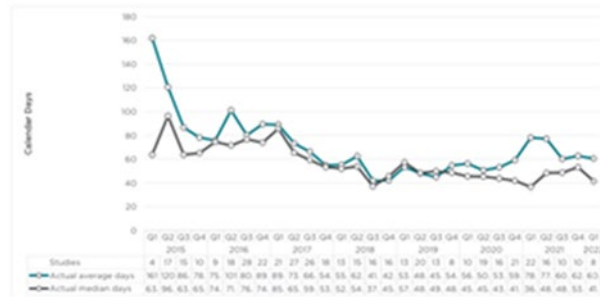


Figure 1a. Turnaround times of new studies approved by the convened UNM Health Sciences IRB

For more information on how we can help, please contact Samiha Mateen at SMateen@salud.unm.edu.

Hub Research Capacity (HRC)

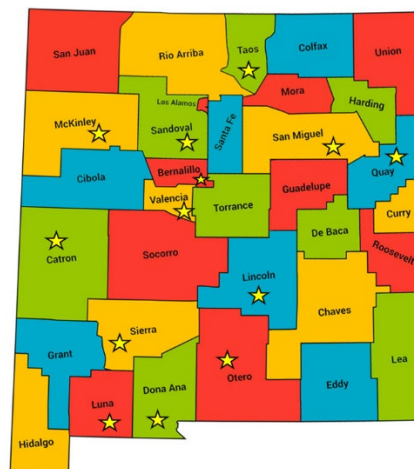
Integrating Special Populations (ISP)

The aim of the CTSC ISP team aim is to identify, develop, and deploy strategies to involve populations who are underserved or otherwise underrepresented in all stages of research. Urging investigators to design scientifically sound CTR that includes special populations from the outset is of critical importance. To aid investigators in these efforts, ISP has developed the new specialized Rurally Engaged, Spanish speaking or Network Specialized Experts (RESPONSE) team led by experienced faculty with mixed-methods CTR expertise. This group will provide pre-proposal consultations. Consultations will focus on best practices and considerations in New Mexico’s special populations, and identify and connect investigators to potential engagement partners, collaborators, and UNM CTSC resources and services. The team coordinates closely with other CTSC cores (e.g., CERC, Translational Endeavors, KL2). Consults are currently available via web-based technology.

For more information on Integrating Special Populations, please use the following link:
<https://hsc.unm.edu/research/ctsc/Community-Engaged-Research-Core/integrating-special-populations.html>

CHN (Community Health Network)

Community engagement efforts, partnerships, and relationships continue to flourish beyond the challenges posed by COVID-19. Cynthia Killough, the program Community Health Specialist (CHS), has been attending 12 community health councils virtually around the state consistently (see map) some before the start of the pandemic and some were more recently. These meetings provide a wealth of information about health priorities and concerns that are important to each county. The meetings also provide a way for Cynthia to introduce health research from UNM and help break down stigma associated with research in general. In the upcoming months there are exciting new projects in the que that include CHS involvement. Stay tuned!



<http://hsc.unm.edu/research/ctsc/community-health-network/index.html>

Network Capacity (NC)

Trial Innovation Network (TIN)

The Trial Innovation Network is a collaborative initiative within the CTSA Program and is composed of three key partners: the CTSA Program Hubs, the Trial Innovation Centers (TICs), and the Recruitment Innovation Center (RIC).

The vision for the Trial Innovation Network is to innovatively address critical roadblocks in clinical research and accelerate the translation of novel interventions into life-saving therapies.

The Trial Innovation Network is a collaborative national network with a focus in three main areas: operational innovation, operational excellence, and collaboration. The Trial Innovation Network will leverage the expertise and resources of the CTSA Program. The Trial Innovation Network will feature

a single IRB system, master contracting agreements, quality by design approaches, and a focus on evidence-based strategies to recruitment and patient engagement.

The goal of the Trial Innovation Network is to not only execute trials better, faster, and more cost-efficiently but, importantly, to be a national laboratory to study, understand and innovate the process of conducting clinical trials.

The University of New Mexico CTSC has been a part of the Trial Innovation Network and as a result has been a participating site in several studies that impact a variety of disease states. This important work has helped connect physicians at the University of New Mexico with the clinical trials specific to their specialty. This effort has encouraged new investigators to become engaged in clinical research. This collaboration is part of the larger mission to move innovated research from the bench, to the bedside, and ultimately out into the communities in which we live.

For more information on the Trial Innovation Network, please contact George Garcia at gemgarcia@salud.unm.edu.

Drug Discovery & Repurposing Core (DDRC)

The DDRC is a Resource for Rapidly Translating Existing Drugs into New Clinical Trials

Do you have ideas about ways to repurpose existing FDA-approved drugs? The CTSC is here to help. The Drug Discovery and Repurposing Core DDRC collaborates with UNM investigators other CTSCs to improve health outcomes by providing unique resources for rapidly translating existing drugs for use in new clinical trials. DDRC provides access to and operation of state-of-the-art technology in drug rescue, repurposing, and repositioning through innovative tools that support investigators and start-up companies. Additionally, DDRC provides support and guidance in translating pilot projects from preclinical proof-of-principle to clinical proof-of-concept as well as helps to develop first-in-human clinical trials.

For additional information or to become a DDRC member, please visit the DDRC (formerly DR3N) webpage: <https://hsc.unm.edu/research/ctsc/dr3n/index.html>.

Clinical Laboratory (T-Laboratory)

Using CTSC Lab Services

The CTSC Translational Laboratory (T-Laboratory) is comprised of 6,000 square feet of wet-lab space, located in the newly renovated CTSC Building. The T-Laboratory offers state-of-the-art equipment and technical assistance with laboratory techniques for UNM HS investigators. The experienced staff of the T-Laboratory provide specialized laboratory support, customized to meet the needs of the investigators in all aspects of research including protocol/assay development, budget preparation, and testing of patient samples for various assays. The T-Laboratory provides sample preparation and technical support for other non-CTSC resources such as UNM Shared Flow Cytometry and High Throughput Screening Resource, and KUSAIR Small Animal Imaging. In addition, our staff will provide training to

UNM HS investigators staff on molecular techniques, clinical techniques, or equipment. There are three options for utilization of CTSC T-Laboratory Services:

- Option A: Full Service Sample Testing
- Option B: Equipment Utilization by Investigator
- Option C: Preparation of Investigator's Experiments or Train Investigator's Staff to Perform Assays and Equipment.

Additionally, the CTSC Clinical Laboratory develops and carries out research-related sample analyses for UNM HS investigators, researchers throughout the United States and world, as well as corporate funded research projects.

For questions, please contact HSC-CTSCResearchConcierge@salud.unm.edu.

Opioid-Use Populations with Integration, Outreach, Informatics, and Drug Discovery (OPIOIDD)

The Southwest Node of the Clinical Trials Network (SW CTN) and the OPIOIDD Function recently presented a *Fentanyl Updates* Panel on April 20th. Expert panelists were Dr. Sandra Comer, Professor of Neurobiology at Columbia University Department of Psychiatry; Dr. Brandon Warrick, Associate Medical Director of the New Mexico Poison and Drug Information Center; and Dr. Scott Jeansonne, Medical Provider at the First Choice Community Healthcare. The training was attended by clinicians, researchers, social workers, and policy workers around New Mexico. The panelists discussed current concerning trends in fentanyl addiction both nationally and within New Mexico, the pharmacodynamics of fentanyl, and clinical treatment considerations. The event was the Southwest CTN's highest-attended event to date, with over 150 attendees.

A follow-up panel is in development to address the benefits of MOUD, commonly held misconceptions about MOUD, and barriers to access with emphasis on rural communities. If you would like to receive communications about future training opportunities, please email SouthwestCTN@salud.unm.edu.

Funding Opportunities Specific to COVID-19

There are several significant funding opportunities available through the CTSC to address the COVID-19 pandemic. CTSC monitors these opportunities for our HSC faculty on a weekly basis and includes additional information from the NIH COVID-19 funding site for your convenience.

Some of these funding opportunities require an active grant or cooperative agreement. They may also need a Letter of Support from Dr. Larson, the CTSC PI. Please contact Michelle Parra (MMParra@salud.unm.edu) if you are interested in applying for any of the COVID-19 funding opportunities listed below.

Recent Active Funding Opportunities Specific to COVID-19 are listed below:

Title	Notice Number	Organization(s)	Release Date	RFA/PA/ PAR #	Expiry Date	Activity Code(s)
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Notice of Special Interest: Research on Alcohol and Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) within the Mission of NIAAA	NOT-AA-22-012	NIAAA	Apr 29, 2022		Mar 6, 2024	R01, R03, R21, K99/R00
Notice of Special Interest (NOSI) - Administrative Supplements for Research of Emerging and Existing Issues of COVID-19 Related to the Health and Well-Being of Women, Children and Individuals with Physical and/or Intellectual Disabilities	NOT-HD-22-003	NICHD, NIAAA, NIDA, NINDS, OBSSR, ORWH	Apr 19, 2022		Jun 6, 2024	333
Emergency Award: Rapid Acceleration of Diagnostics Tribal Data Repository (RADx TDR) (U24 Clinical Trial Not Allowed)	RFA-OD-22-011	OD, NIA, NIAMS, NIEHS, NIGMS, NIMH, NIMHD, NINDS, NLM	Apr 6, 2022		Jun 1, 2022	U24
Notice of Special Interest (NOSI): Promoting Health, Safety, and Recovery	NOT-ES-22-005	NIEHS	Mar 29, 2022		Jun 7, 2022	333

Training for COVID-19 Essential Workers and their Communities						
Notice of Special Interest (NOSI) - Emerging and Existing Issues of Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Research Related to the Health and Well-Being of Women, Children and Individuals with Physical and/or Intellectual Disabilities	NOT-HD-22-002	NICHD, NIDA, NIEHS, NINDS, OBSSR, ORWH	Mar 28, 2022		Jun 6, 2024	R01, R21
Understanding and Addressing Misinformation among Populations that Experience Health Disparities (R01 - Clinical Trials Optional)	RFA-MD-22-008	NIMHD, NCI	Mar 22, 2022		Nov 14, 2022	R01
Accelerating the Pace of Child Health Research Using Existing Data from the Adolescent Brain Cognitive Development (ABCD) Study (R21-Clinical	PAR-22-138	NIMH, NIAAA, NIEHS, ORWH	Mar 15, 2022		May 8, 2025	R21

Trial Not Allowed)						
Accelerating the Pace of Child Health Research Using Existing Data from the Adolescent Brain Cognitive Development (ABCD) Study (R01-Clinical Trial Not Allowed)	PAR-22-137	NIMH , NIAAA , NIEHS , ORWH	Mar 15, 2022		May 8, 2025	R01
Emergency Awards: RADx-UP - Social, Ethical, and Behavioral Implications (SEBI) Research on Disparities in COVID-19 Testing among Underserved and Vulnerable Populations (U01 Clinical Trial Optional)	RFA-OD-22-005	OD, NCATS, NCCIH, NCI, NEI, NHGRI, NHLBI, NIA, NIAAA, NIAID, NIAMS, NIBIB, NICHD, NIDA, NIDCD, NIDCR, NIDDK, NIEHS, NIGMS, NIMH, NIMHD, NINDS, NINR	Feb 17, 2022		May 3, 2022	U01
Emergency Award: RADx-UP Community-Engaged Research on Rapid SARS-CoV-2 Testing among Underserved and Vulnerable Populations (U01 Clinical Trial Optional)	RFA-OD-22-006	OD, NCATS, NCCIH, NCI, NEI, NHGRI, NHLBI, NIA, NIAAA, NIAID, NIAMS, NIBIB, NICHD, NIDA, NIDCD, NIDCR, NIDDK, NIEHS, NIGMS, NIMH, NIMHD, NINDS, NINR	Feb 17, 2022		May 3, 2022	U01

Notice of Special Interest (NOSI): Addressing Accessibility Inequities with COVID Home-Based Testing for Individuals with Visual Impairment	NOT-EY-22-010	NEI	Feb 4, 2022		Mar 9, 2024	R41/R42, R15, 333, R01, R43/R44, R21
Urgent Award: COVID-19 Mental Health Research (R01 Clinical Trial Required)	PAR-22-112	NIMH	Jan 31, 2022		Dec 24, 2022	R01
Urgent Award: COVID-19 Mental Health Research (R01 Clinical Trial Optional)	PAR-22-113	NIMH	Jan 31, 2022		Dec 24, 2022	R01
Notice of Special Interest (NOSI): Research on barriers to care and risk of HIV-associated comorbidities among vulnerable population groups	NOT-HL-22-010	NHLBI	Jan 31, 2022		May 8, 2025	R01
Notice of Special Interest (NOSI): Enhancing Research on Deciphering Mechanisms of COVID-19-Associated Coagulopathy	NOT-HL-23-003	NHLBI	Jan 21, 2022		Jul 6, 2022	R01

Notice of Special Interest (NOSI): COVID-19 Pandemic Mental Health Research	NOT-MH-22-100	NIMH	Jan 19, 2022		Jan 8, 2025	R21, R34, R01
Notice of Special Interest: Administrative Supplements and Urgent Competitive Revisions on Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) within the Mission of NIAAA	NOT-AA-22-002	NIAAA	Dec 2, 2021		May 8, 2024	333
Notice of Special Interest (NOSI): Administrative Supplements for Research on Sex and/or Gender Influences (Admin Supp Clinical Trial Optional)	NOT-OD-22-030	ORWH, NIDA, NEI, NIDCD, NIEHS, NHGRI, NIMH, NIAID, NINR, NICHD, NHLBI, NCCIH, NIAAA, SGMRO, NCATS, NIDCR, NIAMS, ORIP, NIDDK, NIBIB, NIA	Dec 2, 2021		Jan 27, 2023	333
Notice of Special Interest (NOSI): Telehealth Strategies for Individuals with HIV and Substance Use Disorders	NOT-DA-21-019	NIDA	Feb 10, 2021	PA-20-184 PA-20-183 PA-20-200 PA-20-195 PA-20-194 PA-20-196	Sep 8, 2024	R01, R03, R21

				PA-20-146		
Notice of Special Interest (NOSI): Medical Consequences of Smoking and Vaping Drugs of Abuse in Individuals with HIV and COVID-19	NOT-DA-21-017	NIDA	Feb 4, 2021	PA-20-184 PA-20-183 PA-20-200 PA-20-195 PA-20-194 PA-20-196	Sep 8, 2024	R01, R02, R03
Notice of Special Interest (NOSI): Complement in Basic Immunology (CIBI)	NOT-AI-21-008	NIAID	Feb 4, 2021	PA-20-185 PA-20-195	Jan 8, 2023	R01, R21
Notice of Special Interest (NOSI): Long-Term Neurocognitive Consequences of COVID-19 in Individuals Living with HIV and Substance Use Disorders	NOT-DA-21-018	NIDA	Feb 3, 2021	PA-20-184 PA-20-183 PA-20-200 PA-20-195 PA-20-194 PA-20-196 PA-20-146	Sep 8, 2024	R01, R03, R21
Notice of Special Interest (NOSI): Administrative Supplements for the Clinical and Translational Science Award	NOT-TR-21-017	NCATS	Feb 3, 2021	PA-20-272	Aug 17, 2024	333

(CTSA) Program to Address COVID-19 Public Health Needs						
Notice of Special Interest (NOSI): NIDCR Support for Research on the Physiological Involvement of Oral Cavity in Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)	NOT-DE-21-001	NIDCR	Jan 26, 2021	PA-20-185 PA-20-195	May 28, 2023	R01, R21
Notice of Special Interest (NOSI): Aging-Relevant Behavioral and Social Research on Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)	NOT-AG-21-015	NIA	Jan 26, 2021	PA-20-183 PA-20-184 PA-20-185 PA-20-200 PA-20-194 PA-20-196 PA-20-195 PAR-19-374 PAR-19-314 PAR-19-070 PAR-19-071 PAR-20-070	May 28, 2023	R01, R03, R21, U19, P01, R21/R33
Notice of Special Interest (NOSI): Effects of smoking and	NOT-DA-21-011	NIDA	Jan 26, 2021	PA-20-184 PA-20-183	Sep 8, 2024	R01, R03, R21

vaping on the risk and outcome of COVID-19 infection				PA-20-200 PA-20-195 PA-20-194 PA-20-196 PA-20-146		
Notice of Special Interest: Administrative Supplements for COVID-19 Impacted NIMH Research	NOT-MH-21-120	NIMH	Dec 23, 2020	PA-20-272	Jun 2, 2023	333
Notice of Special Interest (NOSI): Effects of smoking and vaping on the risk and outcome of COVID-19 infection	NOT-DA-20-084	NIDA	Oct 27, 2020	PA-20-183 PA-20-200 PA-20-195	Sep 8, 2024	R01, R03, R21
Notice of Special Interest (NOSI): Simulation Modeling and Systems Science to Address Health Disparities	NOT-MD-20-025	NIMHD, NCI, NIDA, NLM, ODP, OBSSR, NIMH, NIAMS	Aug 13, 2020	PA-20-185	May 8, 2023	R01
Notice of Special Interest (NOSI): Competitive Revision and Administrative Supplements to Existing NICHD HIV Grants and	NOT-HD-21-037	NICHD	Jul 2, 2021	PA-20-272 PA-18-935 NOT-OD-20-128 NOT-OD-20-118	May 8, 2022	333

Cooperative Agreements to Understand HIV Health Impacts of COVID-19				NOT-OD-20-018		
Notice of Special Interest (NOSI): NIDCD is Interested in Supporting Research on the Impact of COVID-19 on Mission Specific Sensory and Communication Disorders	NOT-DC-20-008	NIDCD	Jun 4, 2020	PA-18-334 PA-20-185 PA-20-184 PA-20-196 PA-20-195 PA-19-270 PA-19-271 PA-19-273 PA-19-272	Sep 8, 2022	R01, R21, R41/R42, R43/R44
Emergency Competitive Revision to Existing NIH Awards (Emergency Supplement - Clinical Trial Optional)	PA-20-135	NIH , NCATS , NCCIH , NCI , NHGRI , NIA , NIAAA , NIAID , NIAMS , NIBIB , NICHD , NIDCD , NIDDK , NIEHS , NIGMS , NIMH , NIMHD , NINR , NLM , ORWH , OSC	Mar 10, 2020	PA-20-135	Sep 8, 2025	333
Notice of Special Interest (NOSI): Promoting Vaccine Access, Acceptance and Uptake among Children, Adolescents, Pregnant and Lactating Women, and Persons with Disabilities	NOT-HD-21-038	NICHD	June 28, 2021	PA-20-200 , PA-21-221 , PA-20-195 , PA-20-194	May 8, 2024	R03, R21

Notice of Special Interest (NOSI) HIV/AIDS in the Era of COVID-19: When Pandemics Collide	NOT-AI-21-057	NIAID, NIMH, NIDA	June 25, 2021	PA-20-185, PA-20-195	May 8, 2024	R01, R21
Limited Competition Emergency Awards: Shared Personal Protective Equipment Resources for COVID-19 Related Vaccine and Treatment Clinical Trials and Clinical Studies (S10 Clinical Trial Not Allowed)	PAR-21-276	NIAID	Jul 16, 2021	Reissue of PAR-20-256	Jul 16, 2022	S10

If you are interested in applying for any of the grants, please email Michelle Parra (MMParra@salud.unm.edu).

For a full listing of COVID-19 through NIH, please access the following site: <https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/COVID-Related.cfm>.

Citing the CTSC

When citing the CTSC, please be sure to include our Grant numbers:



Thank you!

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