CTSA Steering Committee Meeting March 24, 2025

2:30pm-3:30pm ET

Agenda: March 24, 2025

Time	Topic	Speaker(s)
2:30-2:35pm ET	Welcome & Announcements	Michael Kurilla and Ted Wun
2:35-2:45pm ET	Vote: Advancing D & I Working Group Extension	
2:45-3:10pm ET	Engagement with State Government: Increasing visibility and support for translational science at state levels, followed by discussion	Rey Panettieri
3:10pm-3:30pm ET	Pod Feedback	Chris Hartshorn
3:30pm ET	Adjourn	Michael Kurilla and Ted Wun

National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences

Welcome and Announcements

Michael Kurilla

Ted Wun

Vote: Advancing Dissemination & Implementation Working Group Request for 6-Month Extension
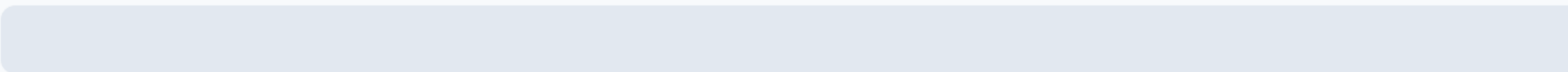
Please click on the link or the QR code below. Voting is anonymous and you will not be able to change your response after submitting your vote.

PollEv.com/cindymark459

Do you approve the 6-month extension requested by the Advancing Dissemination & Implementation Working Group?

Yes

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No

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Pod Lead: Reynold Panettieri, Rutgers University
Pod Membership: Indiana University, University of Minnesota, University of Wisconsin, University of Florida, University of Iowa

Crowd Sourced Topic

Engagement with State Government: Increasing visibility and support for translational science at state levels.

NIH

National Center
for Advancing
Translational Sciences

How and Why Should CTSA Hubs Engage the State Government?

- Recognition and marketing of who we are, what we do, and how we address challenges;

- Acquisition of resources for our mission in partnership with the state governmental interests;

- *Shovel-ready:* Nimble and dynamic problem-solving capabilities for health crises and state health concerns;

- Established training, educational and workforce development platforms in translational research and science.

Domains of Interaction

State Government & CTSA Hub Interactions

- Leadership & Advisory Roles
- Advocacy and Policy Development
- NOFO for State-Funded Research
- Contract Services
- Entrepreneurism and Innovation
- Training and Education
- Workforce Development

Leadership and Advisory Roles

- Most Hubs engage the state government to provide expertise as members of External Advisory Committees. These members are Health Commissioners and/or Directors of State HHS programs.

- Others engage state HHS individual as members of stakeholder or community advisory boards (Iowa).

- Rutgers engage present and past health commissioners as members of workgroups that consult to Elements and Modules regarding health policy.

Contract Services and Workforce Development

- Most Hubs provide services to state-based programs regarding planning, managing and execution of health and wellness initiatives.

- Iowa provides implementation science support for state maternal health initiatives and fund pilots to assist FQHCs.

- Iowa provides personnel on HRSA grants that are run through the Iowa Dept of HHS (e.g. mental health and maternal health).

Entrepreneurism & Innovation

- Concerning economic development, several states provide support for SBIRs, STTRs, and state-wide workforce development through start-ups.

- Many Hubs have partnerships with their states to promote commercialization of academic assets.

- University of Minnesota has teamed with the state to promote innovation.

- Rutgers and Princeton participates in a dedicated a state-supported, Innovation Hub for Health and AI.

Training & Education

- Although all hubs have extensive educational and training programs in translational research and science, state-supported education and training programs using these assets are limited.

- Typically, state-employed staff and leadership frequently attend Hub-sponsored seminars, workshops and symposia.

- Few hubs identified defined programs to educate and train state employees in translational science or research. Some exist regarding focused training for example in smoking cessation of FQHC staff.

Advocacy & Policy Development

- T4 translational science focuses on policy change that can partly occur at the state level.

- Most Hubs engage the state in policy change through institutional-based lobbying and /or through including health commissions and state health executives on advisory committees.

- Many Hubs also provide expert opinions and testimonials to influence policy change.

- Rutgers has established a workgroup entitled *Affecting Health Policy,* comprised of four former state health commissioners and former CEO's of MCOs. This committee is available for Element- and Module-based consultations regarding program development.
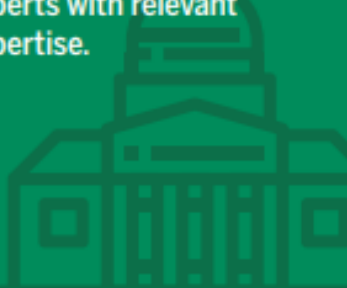
NOFO for State-Funded Research

- Many states provide NOFO's for specific initiatives.

- Given the nature of our infrastructure, Hubs can nimbly apply and accomplish the goals of these initiatives.

- Most Hubs have received state support for specific projects; many initiatives seem similar across states such as maternal health, opiate use disorder, mother-child determinants of health, etc.
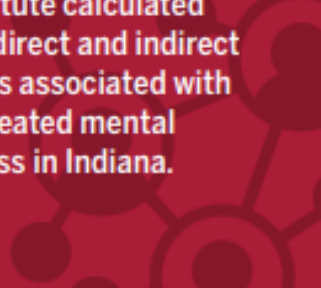
Well-being Informed by Science and Evidence (WISE) in Indiana, a partnership between the Indiana CTSI and the Indiana Family and Social Services Administration
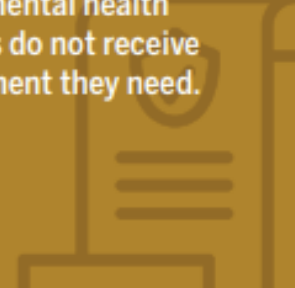
In Practice:

The Indiana Behavioral Health Commission recognized the need to address mental illness in Indiana and requested WISE to locate academic experts with relevant expertise.
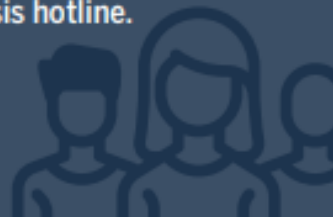
Academic experts from the Indiana University Richard M. Fairbanks School of Public Health, Regenstrief Institute, and Irsay Institute calculated the direct and indirect costs associated with untreated mental illness in Indiana.

The research revealed that the economic burden of untreated mental illness results in $4.2 billion annually. About 1 in 5 Hoosiers with mental health illness do not receive treatment they need.

The research findings led to legislation expanding access to mental health support in Indiana through community health centers and establishing the 9-8-8 mental health crisis hotline.

WISE INDIANA

Summary

- CTSA Hubs report robust and highly productive collaborations with state governments.

- Hub-state partnerships occur across multiple domains.

- Some but not all Hubs collaborate across all domains.

- The education and training domain offers opportunity for greater collaborative efforts with state governments.

Pod Feedback

Christopher Hartshorn, PhD

Acting Chief

Clinical and Translational Science Awards Program Branch

Division of Clinical Innovation

Date Received: February 3, 2025
Pod Lead: Steven Bernstein, Dartmouth College
Pod Membership: Weill Cornell Medicine, Johns Hopkins University, University of Pittsburgh, University at Buffalo, University of Pennsylvania

Pod Meeting Summary: February 3, 2025

CTSA Steering Committee (SC) Updates

- Fall Meeting

- Steering Committee Discussion: TS vs. TR, data sciences

New Business

- Dartmouth CTSA presentation, Steve Bernstein, Anna Tosteson, Keith Paulson

- This was the second pod meeting for SYNERGY, the Dartmouth CTSA, but the first for this pod, with Steve B. as a new pod leader.

- Group Discussion: how to articulate the rationale for translational science to the lay public, policymakers

- Continue to define the distinction between TS and TR, and their interdependence

Next Meeting: 3 March 2025 12 PM ET

Date Received: February 18, 2025
Pod Lead: Arleen Brown, UCLA Clinical and Translational Science Institute
Pod Membership: Stanford, Scripps, UC San Diego, OHSU

Pod Meeting Summary: February 18, 2025

- Site updates on submissions, responses to reviews, RPPR submissions

- NIH updates

- CTSA Spring Group Meetings meeting will April 14-17, 2025; the UL1/UM1 meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 17th 1-2pm ET, pending NIH approval. Registration is not yet open.

- Fall meeting – reviewed topics and solicited volunteers for planning committee

- Topic for future POD meetings (next meeting March 17, 2025, 3-4 pm PT)

- Translational research around wildfire response at UCLA – will invite leads to March meeting

Pod Meeting Summary: February 21, 2025

Mount Sinai reported on EPIC Implementation for Research to stimulate best practice discussion

- Reviewed workflows of other CTSAs (NYU, Penn, Columbia, Yale)

- Governance committee formed to address research workflow processes and barriers constituted by CTSA Director, Epic team, research informatics, Office of Research Services (ORS) staff who will ultimately lead education of investigator community, and end users.

Discussion summary: EPIC's Challenges and Future Uncertainty

- The group discussed challenges and concerns surrounding the use of Epic in healthcare systems.

- Participants shared experiences with Epic and other systems at their institutions, noting issues of transparency, high costs, and lack of interoperability.

- Skepticism raised about Epic's future, citing its cumbersome nature and potential for new, lighter AI-powered systems to disrupt the market.

CTMS Implementation Challenges and Solutions

- Explored the challenges/best practices of implementing a CTMS at their institutions.

- Shared insights from using Encore, noting the difficulties in system integration and the burden on coordinators.

Date Received: February 25, 2025
Pod Lead: Reynold Panettieri, Rutgers University
Pod Membership: Indiana University, University of Minnesota, University of Wisconsin, University of Florida, University of Iowa

Pod Meeting Summary: February 25, 2025

Engaging the State Government:

- Importance of learning best practices from other hubs.

- Some hubs have strong government connections, while others are less integrated.

NCATS Data Science vs. Informatics Debate:

- Clarification that NCATS is not moving away from informatics but using "data science" as a broader term.

- Some hubs were concerned about funding shifts affecting key infrastructure.

- Consensus that data science encompasses informatics along with AI, machine learning, and NLP.

Career Development for Physician Scientists:

- Discussion on whether K-12 programs lead to R01 grants faster than K08 or K23.

- Suggested need for data analysis on career trajectories.

- Potential institutional differences affecting outcomes.

Implementation Science & Changing Practice:

- Focus on how NCATS aims to change practice in translational sciences.

- Challenges in getting institutions to adopt new policies and practices.

Date Received: February 17, 2025

Pod Lead: Vesna Garovic, Mayo Clinic

Pod Membership: University of Southern California, The Ohio State University, Medical College of Wisconsin, Tufts University, University of California - Davis

Pod Meeting Summary: February 17

Pod member Introductions:

- Erin Gibson (Tufts), Ted Wun and Angela Griffiths (UC-Davis) were introduced as new Pod members.

Topic ideas for the Fall Meeting were discussed:

- More PI interaction would be beneficial.

- Discuss things that will need to be addressed in the coming years.

- Hub Administrators should also be at the meeting.

- The meeting format should be less formal.

- Ask NCATS for guidance on what community engagement and CTSI mean going forward.

  - Community is fundamental to healthcare and it could look different for many groups.

  - A trusted facilitator would be appreciated.

- A PI discussion could occur on April 17 during the 1-2pm break.

Date Received: February 25, 2025
Pod Lead: Gerry Moeller, Wright Regional Center for Clinical & Translational Science
Pod Membership: VCU, NYU Langone, Translational Science Institute, U Massachusetts, Georgetown/Howard Universities, Yale University, University of Virginia

Pod Meeting Summary: February 25

- Concerns about potential unfunded mandates in CTSA data science efforts; NIH using N3C as a pilot model.

- Changes in NIH grant review: Discussed sections that were removed from UM1 PAR.

- Advisory Council meeting delays affecting grant approvals.

- Dr. Lucila Ohno-Machado introduced as a new MPI for the CTSA award.

- Next steps:

    - Monitor NIH policy changes and Advisory Council meeting scheduling.

    - Prepare for the Spring Meeting and track agenda items.

    - Ensure Dr. Ohno-Machado is integrated into CTSA POD planning.

Question/Comment for NCATS: Request for clarification on Advisory Council delays and how it impacts funding decisions. Need for a formal NIH response regarding policy shifts in grant applications.

Adjourn

April 28, 2025
2:30-3:30pm ET