CTSA Coordination, Communication, & Operations Support

Steering Committee Meeting

June 22, 2026

2:30-3:30pm ET

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Deloitte. ICF University of Rochester

Agenda

Time	Topic	Speaker(s)
2:30pm – 2:35pm	Welcome	Michael Kurilla, Grace McComsey
2:35 – 3:10pm	Vote: Cycle 16 Working Group Proposals	Amanda Scott
3:10pm – 3:30pm	Pod Spotlight: Virginia Commonwealth University	Gerry Moeller

CTSA Coordination, Communication, & Operations Support

Cycle XVI Working Group Proposals

Working Group Proposal Ballot

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Cycle 16 Overview

4 Available Working Group slots

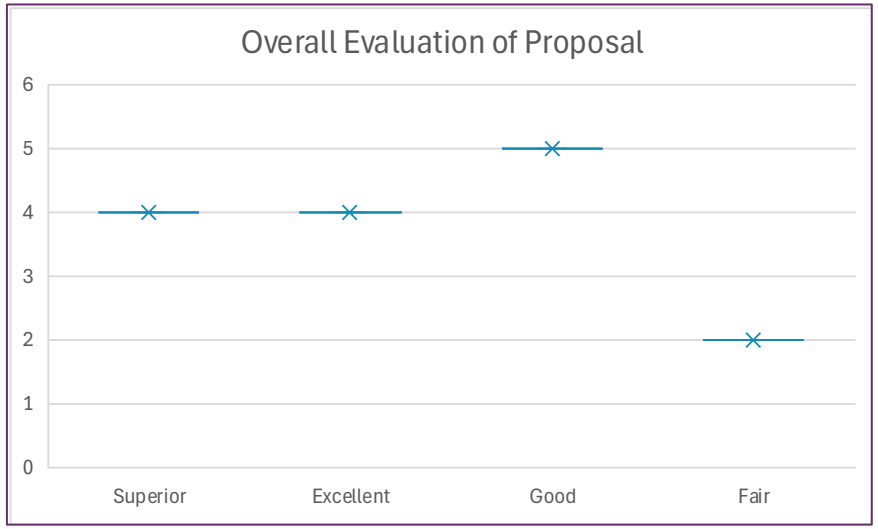
- 7 Proposals submitted
  - 1 Resubmission
- 5/7 Proposals endorsed by Enterprise Committees
  - 2 Collaboration and Engagement
  - 2 Workforce Development
  - 1 Integration Across the Lifespan
- Primary Topic Areas of Interest:
  - 1 Artificial Intelligence
  - 1 Solution Oriented Approaches in Health Disparities Research
  - 3 Translational Science Methods & Best Practices
  - 2 National Training Curricula in CTS
- 16 Steering Committee Members participated in the review process

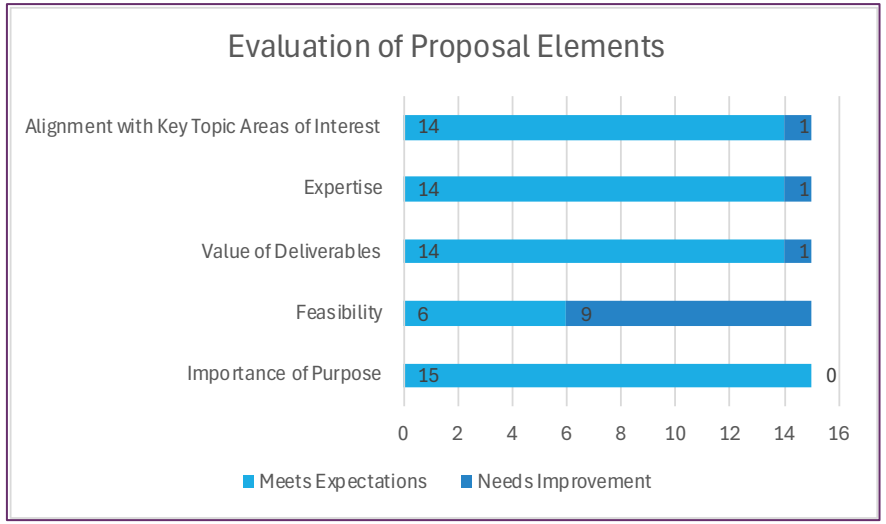
Link to Ballot

AI Enabled Clinical Research Operations: Accelerating Study Activation, Recruitment, and Data Management Across CTSA Hubs

- Submitted by: Arash Naiem, University of California Los Angeles
- Endorsement: N/A
- Resubmission: N/A
- Total reviews: 15; Conflicts 0

The overarching goal of this working group is to accelerate and standardize the integration of artificial intelligence (AI) into clinical research operations across CTSA hubs, with the aim of improving efficiency, quality, and equity throughout the study lifecycle.





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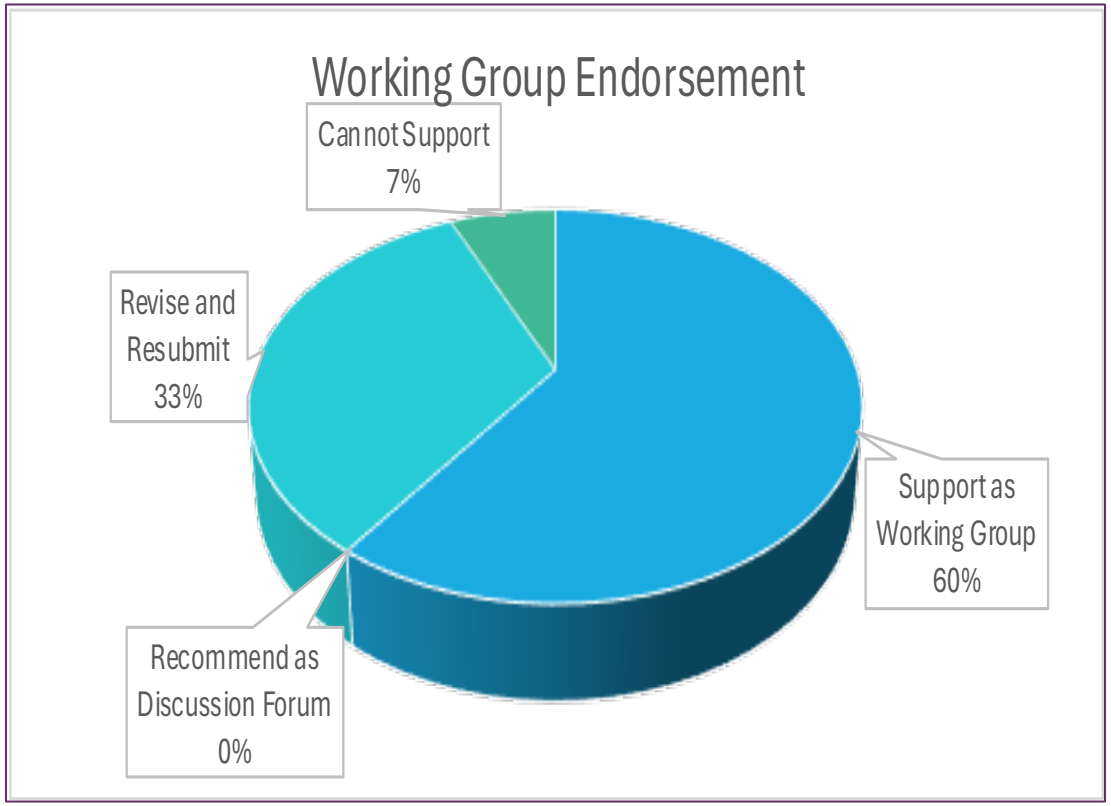


Team Science Survey Feasibility Assessment: If the surveys in Y1Q1(Environmental Scan) and Y2Q1 (Evaluation) are started in those quarters and the survey milestones are met on time, the surveys would be achievable in this timeline.

Key Endorsements

- Well-developed, implementation-focused approach with practical deliverables
- Addresses a critical and timely need in AI integration
- Focuses on operationalization (not tool development) fills a consortium gap
- Potential for meaningful short-, mid-, and long-term impact

Key Limitations/ Risks to Success

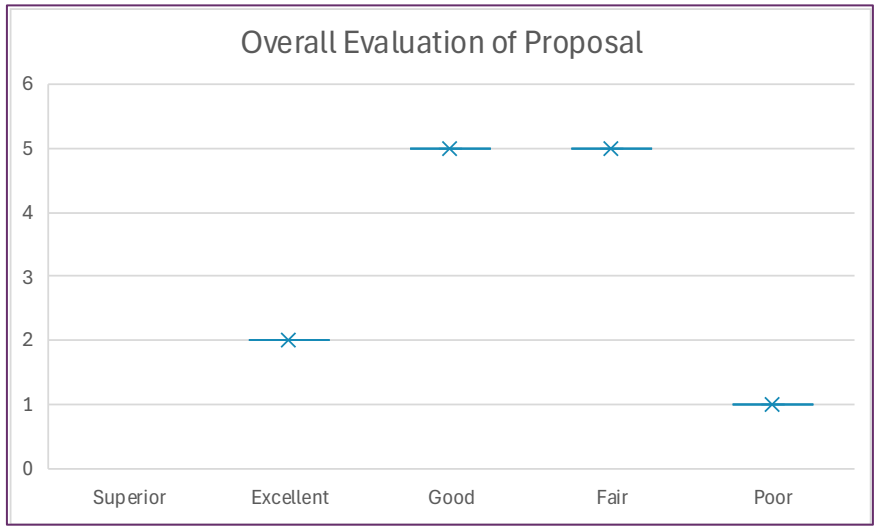
- Scope is overly broad and highly ambitious for timeline
- Risk of overlap with existing AI-related consortium projects, working groups and EC efforts
- Rapidly evolving AI landscape may limit relevance of outputs
- Lack of clarity on coordination with other CTSA initiatives
- Feasibility concerns around completing pilots and deliverables in time

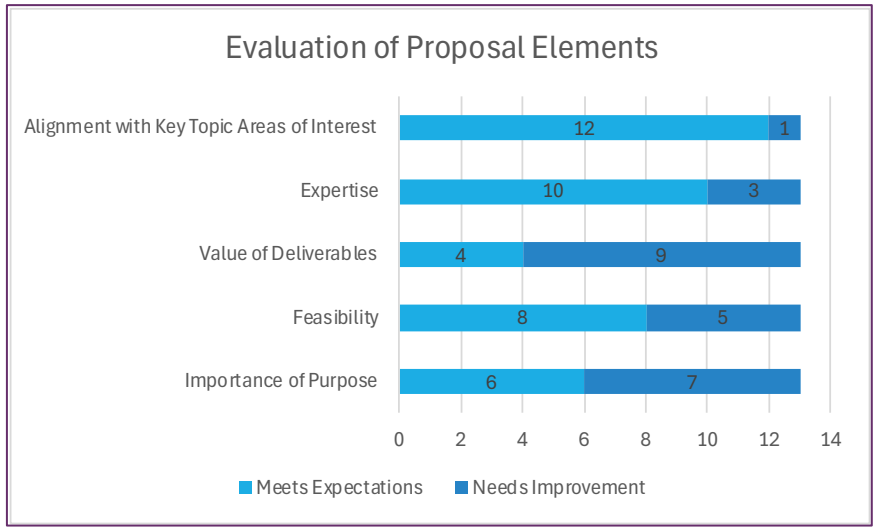
Bottom Line: *High-impact, timely proposal, but success depends on narrowing scope and ensuring feasibility within a rapidly evolving AI landscape.*

Solution-Oriented Approaches in Health Disparities Research

- Submitted by: Darcy Freedman | Case Western Reserve University
- Endorsement: Collaboration & Engagement
- Resubmission: N/A
- Total reviews: 13; Conflicts 2

The goals of this working group are: (1) build shared understanding and expand capacity for solution-oriented health disparities research and (2) develop and disseminate actionable, real-world relevant best practices and recommendations to guide solution-oriented health disparities research.





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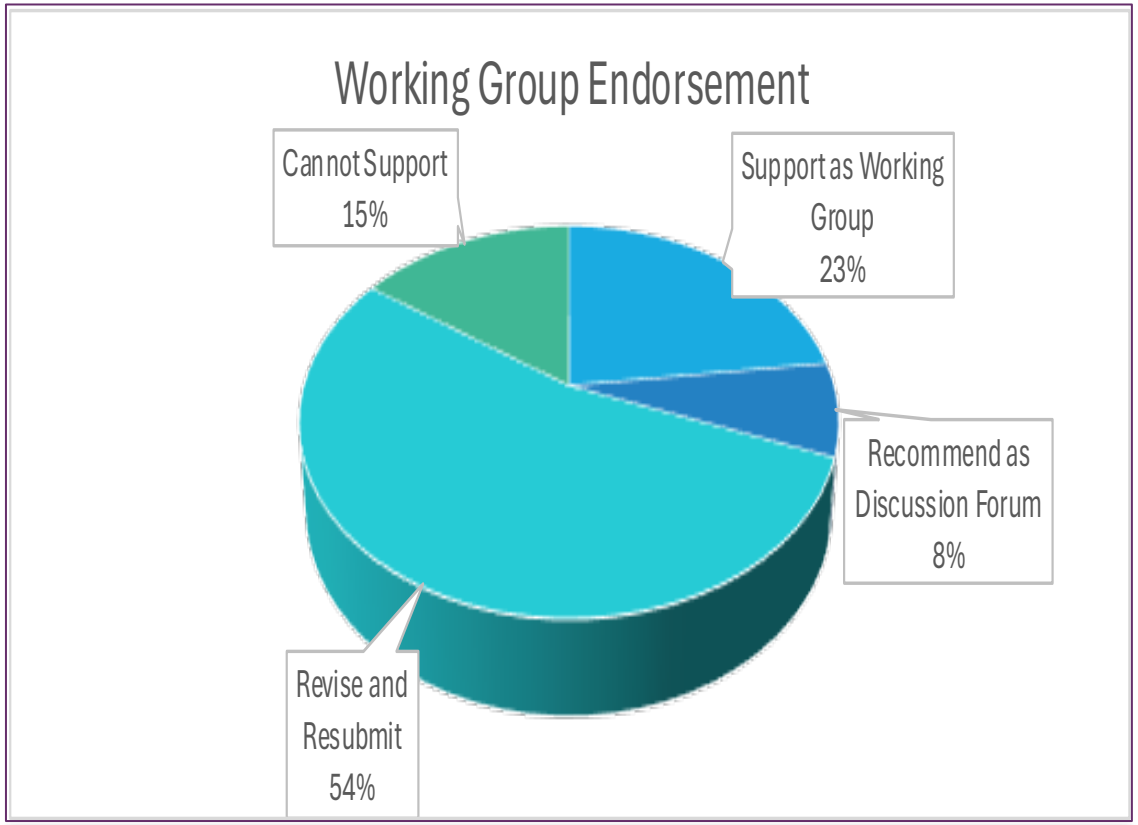


Team Science Survey Feasibility Assessment: No survey requested; future survey requests would need to be submitted within the first 6 months of WG and are subject to survey support availability at the time of request.

Key Endorsements

- Strong alignment with EC (Collaboration & Engagement) priorities
- Addresses an important shift toward solution-oriented health disparities research

Key Limitations/ Risks to Success

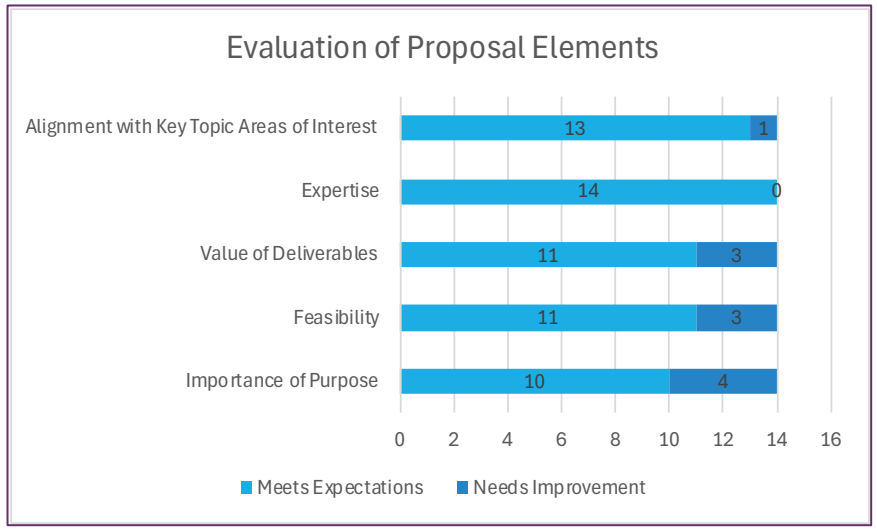
- Goals are overly broad and lack focus
- Limited specificity in approach and deliverables
- Concerns about inclusivity and effectiveness of town hall methodology
- Unclear whether outputs will yield actionable guidance
- Missing detail on expertise and implementation strategy

Bottom Line: *Important topic with strong alignment but lacks the specific and clarity needed to ensure actionable outcomes.*

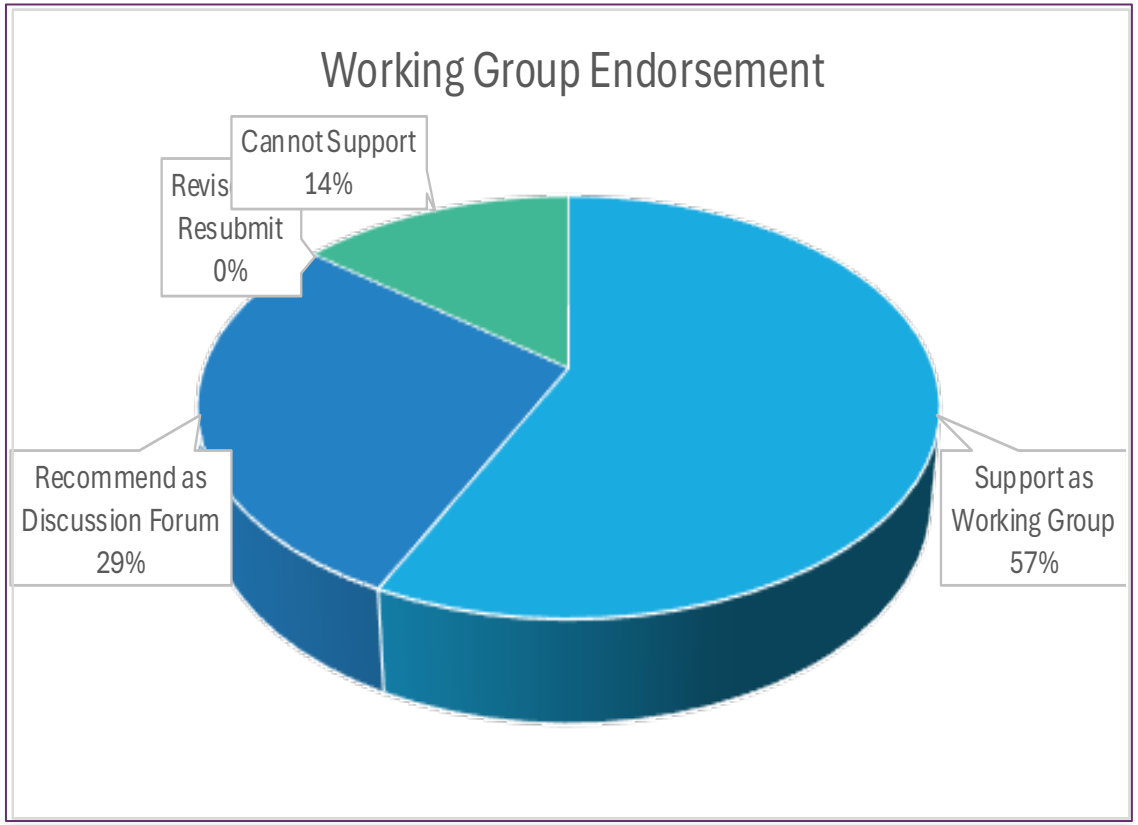
Measuring Success in Translational Science

- Submitted by: Sydney Bollinger | Medical University of South Carolina
- Endorsement: N/A
- Resubmission: N/A
- Total reviews: 14; Conflicts 1

The goals of this working group are: (1) develop a generalizable coding system to evaluate Element E and TS Pilot programs; (2) identify exemplar Element E and TS Pilot projects and characteristics associated with success; and (3) disseminate best practices and evaluation tools to strengthen Element E and TS Pilot programs across hubs.



Measuring Success in Translational Science



Team Science Survey Feasibility Assessment: No survey requested; future survey requests would need to be submitted within the first 6 months of WG and are subject to survey support availability at the time of request.

Key Endorsements

- Addresses a recognized gap in evaluating Element E and pilot projects
- Potential to standardize success metrics across hubs
- Could provide valuable insights and success stories for NCATS
- Strong collaborative team to support analysis and dissemination

Key Limitations/ Risks to Success

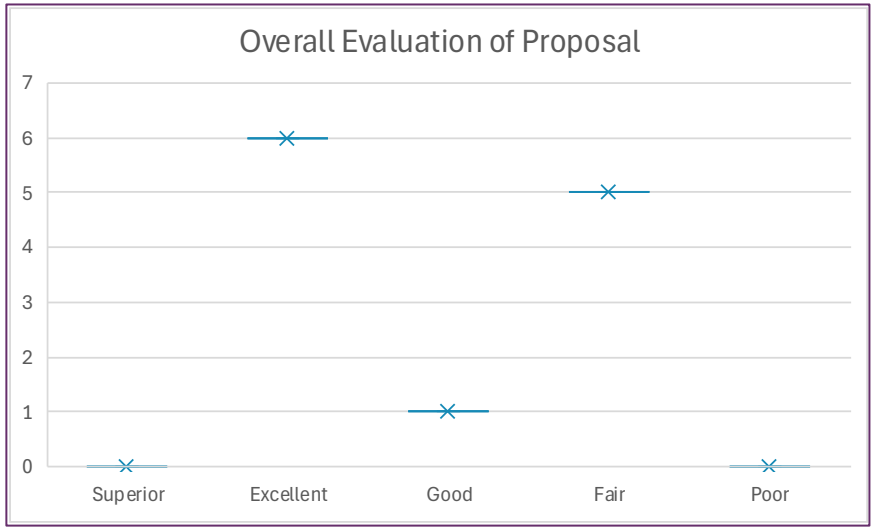
- Requires hub buy-in for data sharing
- Risk of redundancy with existing evaluator group efforts
- Challenges defining and measuring success
- Limited perceived significance due to narrow focus
- Difficulty applying a single framework across diverse projects

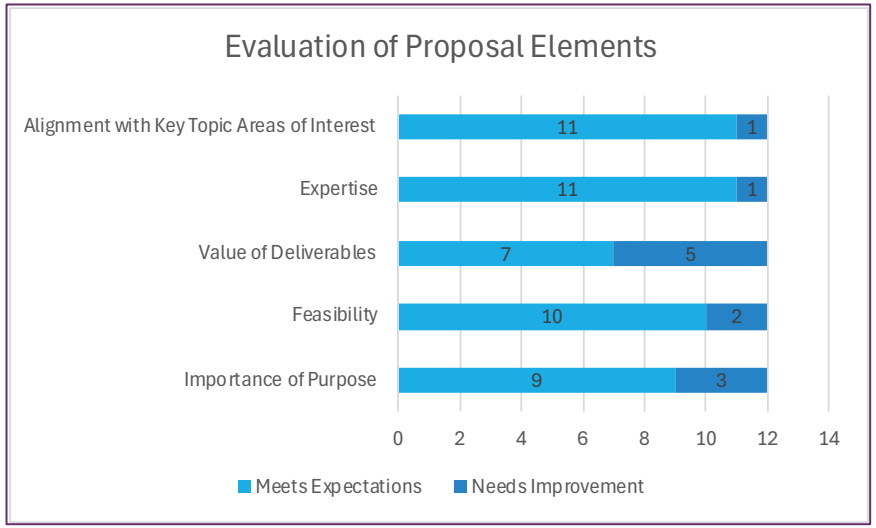
Bottom Line: *Fills a clear evaluation gap, but impact may be constrained by narrow scope and challenges in standardizing success across diverse projects.*

The Advancing Dissemination and Implementation Science Working Group: Integrating Dissemination and Implementation Sciences across CTSA Components

- Submitted by: Bijal Balasubramanian| University of Texas Health Science Center Houston
- Endorsement: Collaboration & Engagement
- Resubmission: Yes
- WG History: Sunset 12/2025; Revise/Resubmit Cycle 15
- Total reviews: 12; Conflicts 1

The goals of this working group are: (1) describe the range of strategies, structures, and processes across CTSA hubs to support the use of D&I to bridge research and practice as required in CTSA elements, and (2) delineate links between D&I and adjacent research and healthcare practice structures such as PBRNs (currently underway), PCORNet Clinical Research Networks, implementation science programs, and collaborations across other federal agencies, state and local governments, private foundations, and health systems.





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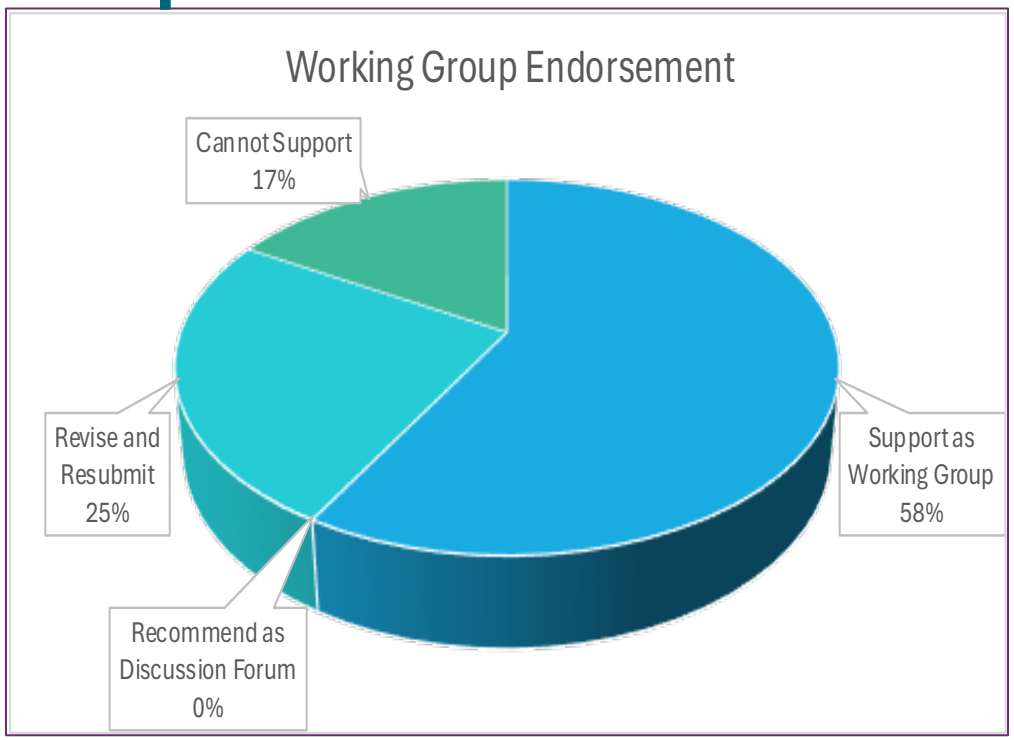


Team Science Survey Feasibility Assessment: The Advancing Dissemination and Implementation Working Groups, historically, have not completed their project goals within the timelines they state. When they say, "complete previous cycle deliverables" it is finishing the analysis of the survey that they did not get completed on time in the last cycle. This incompletion was due to delays in the working group members responses along with confusion among the members on who had the decision-making powers, as well as not meeting important milestones so that the survey team could move the survey onto the next stage. They have a lot of work packed into their timeline and with the experience from the previous working group cycles, what they want to do is not achievable on this timeline.

Key Endorsements

- Strong alignment with D&I and translational science priorities
- Builds on prior working group efforts
- Potential to generate actionable knowledge across hubs
- Addresses concerns from previous review
- Potential to influence implementation practices

Key Limitations/ Risks to Success

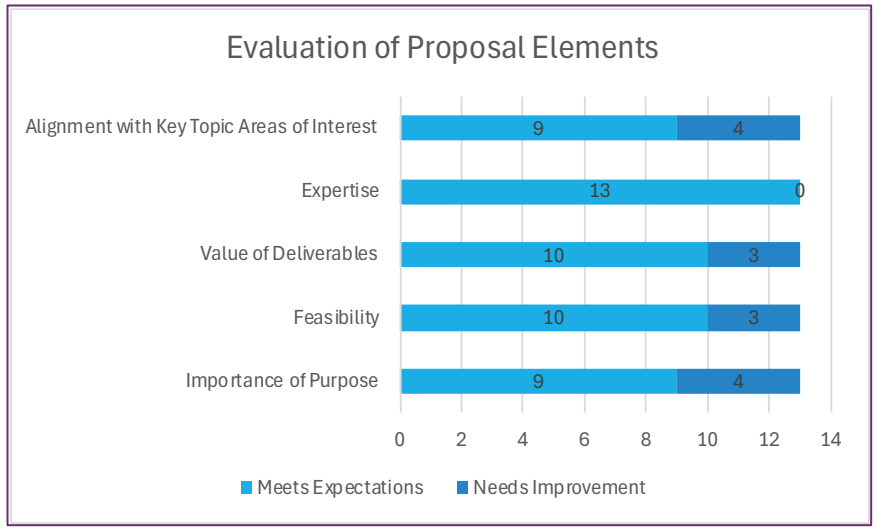
- Purpose and goals are diffuse and lack clarity
- Deliverables are too broad and underspecified
- Unclear value beyond descriptive cataloging
- Needs significant narrowing of scope
- May not produce actionable outcomes

Bottom Line: *Strong strategic alignment but requires clearer focus and more actionable deliverables to demonstrate value.*

CTS Launchpad: National Training Criteria from Classroom to Career

- Submitted by: James Holahan | New York University
- Endorsement: Workforce Development
- Resubmission: N/A
- Total reviews: 13; Conflicts: 0

The primary goal is to develop standardized, competency-based curricular frameworks for HS and undergraduate clinical research education grounded in validated workforce competency models.



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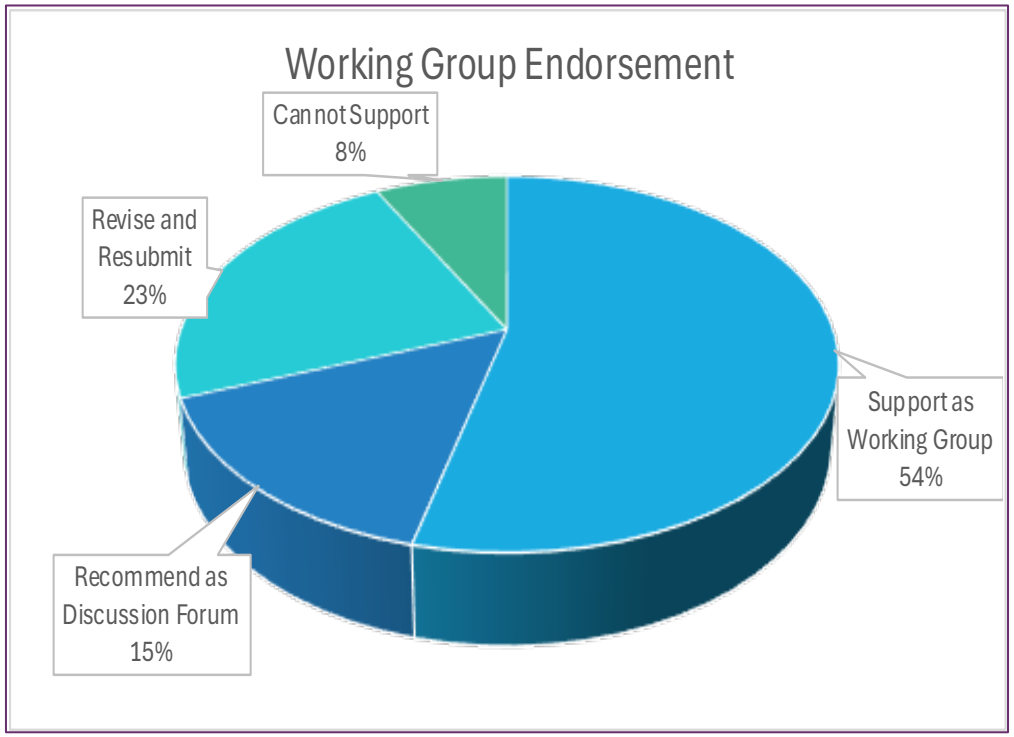


Team Science Survey Feasibility Assessment: No survey requested; future survey requests would need to be submitted within the first 6 months of WG and are subject to survey support availability at the time of request.

Key Endorsements

- Highly impactful and timely workforce development focus
- Addresses an underexplored pipeline (high school/undergraduate levels)
- Innovative approach to early workforce exposure
- Clear potential to strengthen workforce pipeline

Key Limitations/ Risks to Success

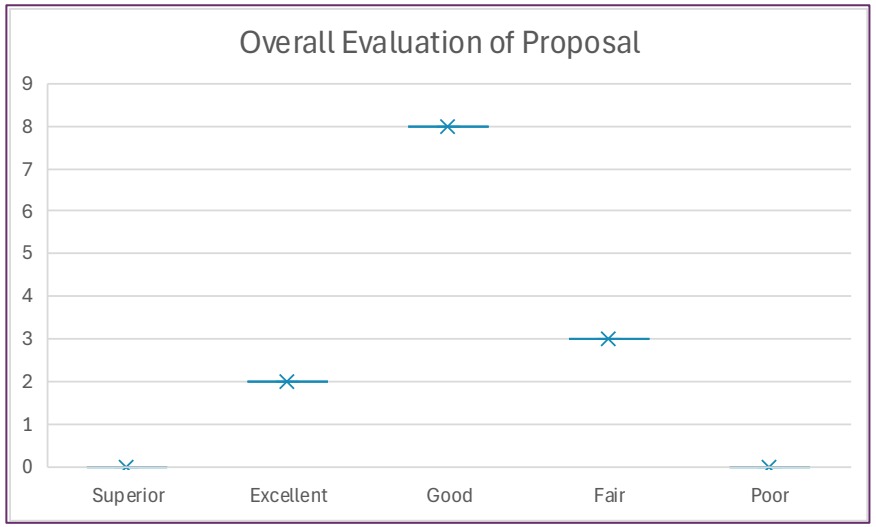
- Implementation challenges across varied education systems
- Adoption may be difficult across CTSA hubs
- Unclear fit within key topic areas of interest
- Curriculum approach may not be the most effective model
- Access to target populations may be difficult

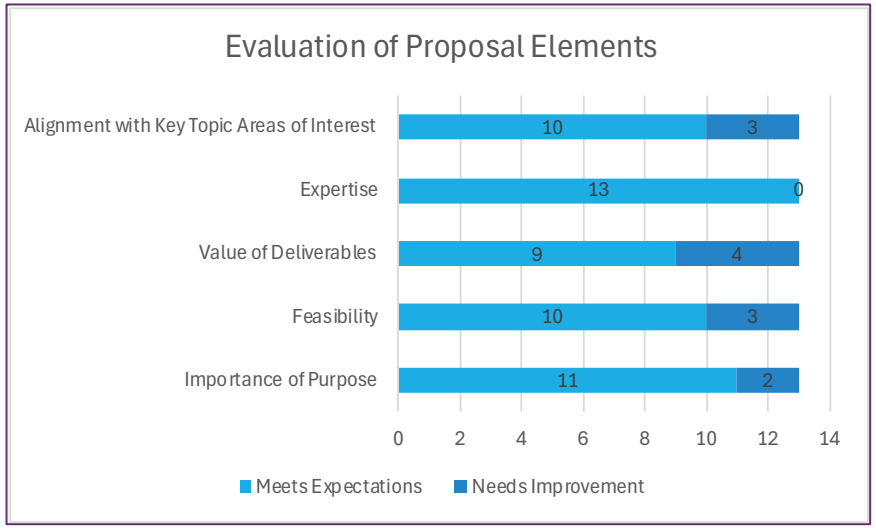
Bottom Line: *High-potential workforce innovation, but scalability and feasibility depend on flexible, non-traditional implementation models.*

Engaging Individuals with Disability in the Research Process 2.0: Training and Implementation

- Submitted by: Floyd Armstrong | University of Miami School of Medicine
- Endorsement: Integration Across the Lifespan
- Resubmission: N/A
- v1.0 WG History: 6-month extension 4/2025; 12/2026
- Total reviews: 13; Conflicts 1

The goals of this WG 2.0 proposal are to provide practical, actionable guidance for investigators that supports: (1) implementation of toolkit components; (2) adoption of practices by investigators, institutions, and funders using training and policy development; and (3) development of models for evaluation of disability-inclusive research practices.





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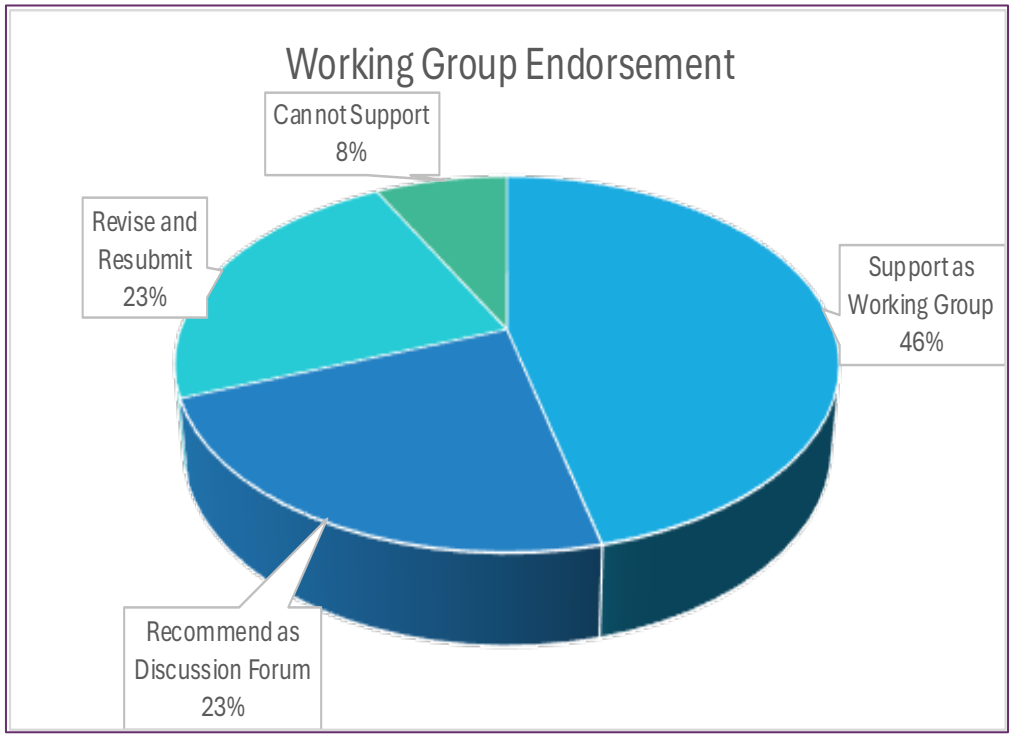


Team Science Survey Feasibility Assessment: Historically, this group is very responsive and if they meet the milestones laid out by the survey timeline, they should be able to meet the survey deliverables.

Key Endorsements

- Builds on prior successful working group efforts
- Strong, experienced team
- Concrete deliverables
- Potential for broad impact across CTSA and ECs

Key Limitations/ Risks to Success

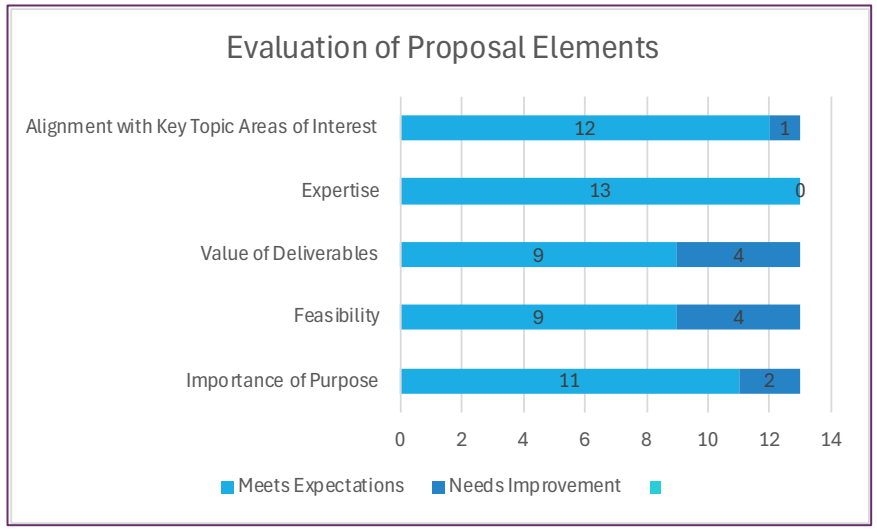
- Scope is broad and somewhat diffuse
- Unclear feasibility and implementation approach
- Uncertainty around engagement of individuals with disabilities
- Questions about alignment with current key topic areas
- Concerns about continuation vs. need for a new Working Group

Bottom Line: *Important continuation effort with strong foundation, but needs clearer scope, execution plan, and engagement strategy.*

Scaling a Reproducible CTSA/CTR Framework for Clinical Research Professionals Training Using a Collaborative Network Model

- Submitted by: Alexandria Carey | University of Florida
- Endorsement: Workforce Development
- Resubmission: N/A
- Total reviews: 13; Conflicts 1

The goals of this WG are to: (1) create tools and resources for CTSA/CTR partner institutions to establish continuing education for CRPs using the inter-institutional Collaborative Network Model (CNM); (2) design a nationally coordinated framework with shared curricular architecture and delivery mechanisms, while preserving institutional autonomy throughout the CNM Consortium; (3) collect input and feedback from the initial CTSA/CTR partnership(s) on their experience with development and implementation of the CNM; and (4) reinforce a cross-disciplinary collaboration across CTSA/CTR partnerships throughout the CNM Consortium.



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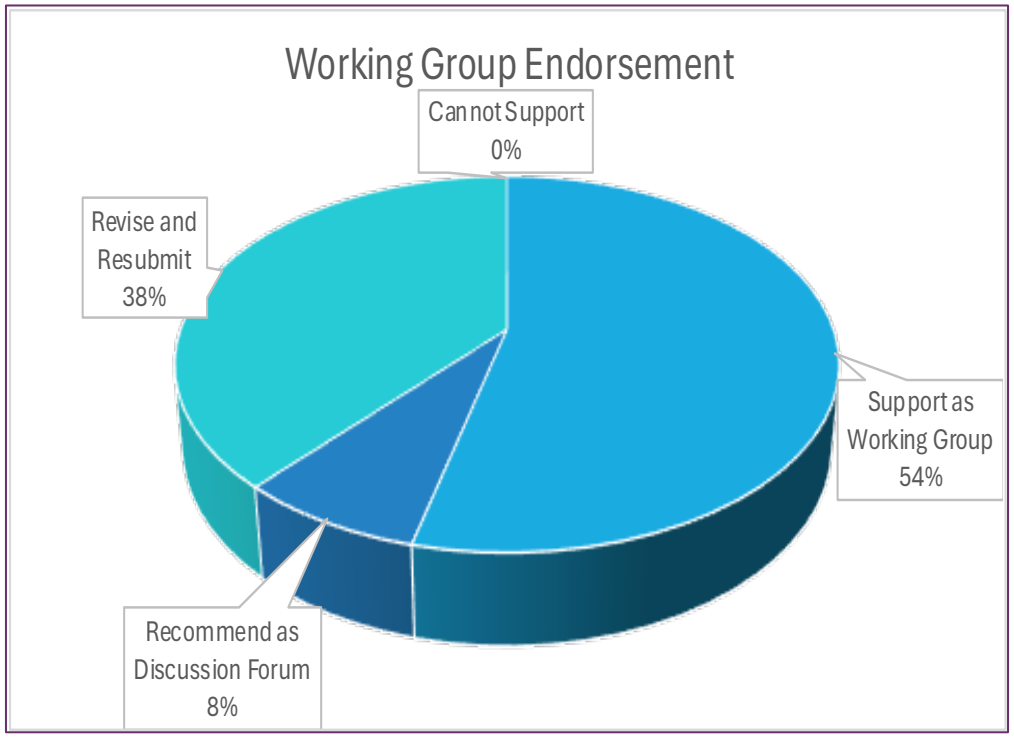


Team Science Survey Feasibility Assessment: Work in creating the assessments would need to begin during Y1Q1 to possibly meet the timeline. The timeline is tight and not positive that it will be achievable within the timeline presented.

Key Endorsements

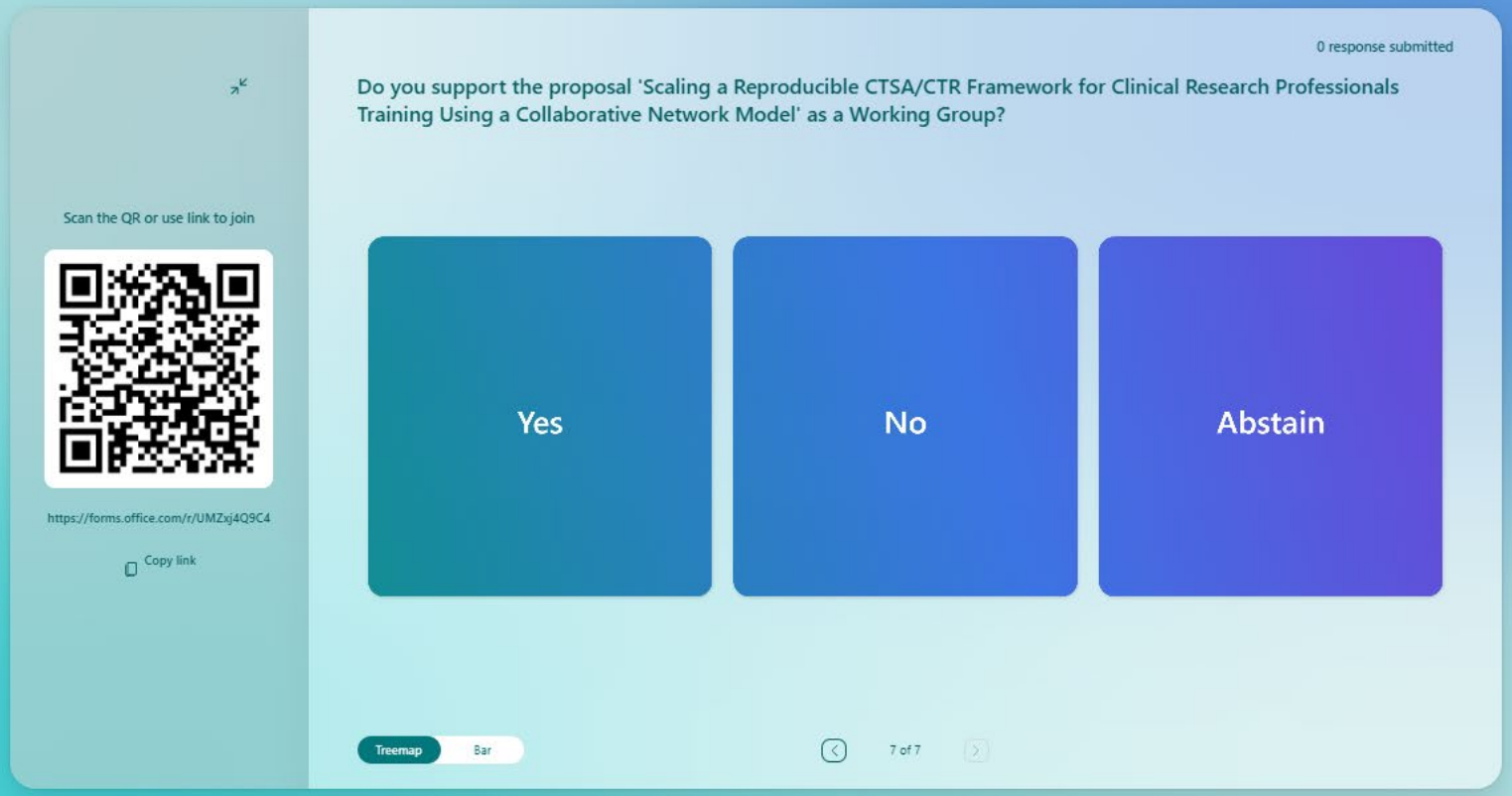
- Addresses a critical workforce training need
- Strong potential for scalable, standardized training model
- Potential for high value through collaboration across CTSAs
- Practical and implementation-ready approach
- Efficient use of resources with broad impact

Key Limitations/ Risks to Success

- Timeline is overly ambitious for 1-year working group
- Unclear differentiation from existing certification programs (SOCRA, ACRP)
- Lack of clarity in implementation model
- Outputs may focus too heavily on frameworks vs. training materials
- Evaluation plan needs strengthening

Bottom Line: *Strong, high-value training proposal, but requires clearer differentiation, stronger evaluation and realistic scope*

Cycle 16 WG Results



CTSA Coordination, Communication, & Operations Support

Pod Spotlight: Virginia Commonwealth University

Presented By: Gerry Moeller

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VCU CTSA POD Meetings: Strategic Summary

QUARTERLY OPERATIONAL & GOVERNANCE REVIEW • JAN – APR 2026

Funding Delays

- **Impacts of funding delays on hubs:** Ongoing delays have affected several POD hubs, causing issues for their institutions. Concerns over how long this will continue.
- **NOGA Backlogs:** Substantial administrative processing delays are restricting immediate project resource deployment. This specific delay has directly affected POD members.

Resource Requirements

- **Infrastructure Shift:** POD members have been evaluating ENACT vs. TriNetX due to multi-institutional scaling burdens placed on smaller hubs.
- **N3C Governance and Cost of Participation:** Concerns were discussed over diminished academic oversight. Concerns were also raised over potential increased cost of participation by hubs.

Compliance Risks

- **DOJ Inquiry:** Federal request for detailed information regarding student training awards (T32, F30, F31) and management protocols.
- **Reporting Gaps:** Discussion around role of CTSA hubs in management of ClinicalTrials.gov and RPPR delays stemming from NLM public access confusion.

Future Initiatives

- **Learning Health (LHS):** Transitioning toward a cyclical "Data to Practice" ecosystem to improve care agility.
- **Rural Health (RHT):** Discussion of Dartmouth presentation on RHT and how we could position hubs to coordinate evaluation and digital health delivery for new $50B federal care frameworks.

Prepared by: **VCU Wright Center for Clinical and Translational Research** cctr.vcu.edu

Next Meeting: July 13, 2026

Agenda

- Survey Review: Pediatric Clinical Trials
- Pod Feedback
- Fall Meeting Update
- Pod Spotlight: Institute for Clinical and Translational Science at the University of California-Irvine

**If you are unable to attend a meeting, please inform us at steeringcmte@ccos.ctsa.io. Slides and summaries will be made available post-meeting. Substitutions are not permitted for Steering Committee meetings.*