

Clinical & Translational Science Center Newsletter

December 2021

Letter from the Director



Dear Colleagues,

Fall has finally arrived and brought with it much needed cooler temperatures. As we head into the final quarter of the year it's time to start planning your research projects for 2022. New funding opportunities can now be found online at <https://hsc.unm.edu/research/news/funding-opps.html>.

New CTSC Pilot awards announced for December 1, 2021, funding. Congratulations to all the awardees, well earned.

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

Our clinical trials unit (PCI) is leading and providing the personnel, as well as T-1 lab testing and analysis, for an investigator-initiated study Trident, aims to transform diabetic kidney disease by discovering molecules associated with the progression of the disease. By looking into molecules expressed inside cells inside the kidney (obtained through kidney biopsies) and their levels in blood and urine using state of the art single cell and biofluid RNA analysis techniques. The study is being conducted by Dr. Christos Argyropoulos.

Our Community Engagement Research (CERC) team is working with Dr. Prajakta Adsul, who is a member of the UNM's Comprehensive Cancer Center, with a study titled, "Cancer Screening Among Sexual and Gender Diverse Individuals in New Mexico." The study team used a state-wide online and mail survey to better understand cancer prevention, screening behaviors, and barriers for the LGBTQIA+ community.

The CERC also piloted the study's first Community Engagement Studio on October 13th, 2021. Heidi Rishel Brakey MA, Senior Community and Qualitative Researcher, facilitated the two-hour long meeting. Other members of the CE team worked to recruit, coordinate, develop REDCap surveys, and provide technical support for the event.

The Informatics group is now collaborating with Dr. Margaret Greenwood-Ericksen on her study "Emergency General Surgery Transfer Patterns and Clinical Outcomes in Rural States." This multi-center study is funded by CTSA's Inter-Institutional Pilot Project Award. The goal of the study is to

understand Emergency General Surgery (EGS) interfacility transfer patterns and how existing practices contribute to outcome disparities for rural patients. Data are collected from UNM Research Data Warehouse (RDW), the electronic health record, and the Physician Access Line Service (PALS). The measures collected include transfer characteristics, patient demographics, clinical values, illness severity scores, procedures performed, and outcome measures.

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 now required indoors for all individuals at the HSC. 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
Translational Endeavors (TE) Component Director: Christopher Abbott, MD
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

Pilot Awards

New CTSC Pilot awards for December 1, 2021, funding.

TITLE OF PROJECT/SUBMISSION	PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR	TITLE	DEPARTMENT
Genomic epidemiology of Enterobacter isolates circulating in New Mexico	Daryl Domman	PhD, Assistant Professor	IM - Center for Global Health
Race and End of Life Care Intensity the ICU	Naomi George	MD, MPH, Assistant Professor	SOM - Emergency Medicine
Trends in Psychiatric Emergency Presentations in Children and Adolescents	Rhoshel Lenroot	MD, Professor - Tenured	SOM - Psychiatry & Behavioral Sciences, Division of Child Psychiatry
A randomized controlled pilot trial of angiotensin II versus vasopressin as second-line vasopressor in the treatment of septic shock	Nathan Nielsen	MD, Associate Professor	IM - Pulmonary, Critical Care & Sleep Medicine

MicroRNA Profiling in Serum Samples Collected from Stroke Patients	Tamara Roitbak	PhD, Associate Professor - Research	SOM - Neurology
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Participation Clinical Interactions (PCI)

Dr. Christos Argyropoulos, Professor in Nephrology, Department of Internal Medicine has been conducting the “Transformative Research In DiabEtic NephropaThy” (TRIDENT) trial using CTSC services going on four years. This trial is for diabetes patients that are scheduled/planning to have a kidney biopsy, to study how diabetes affects kidney function.

TRIDENT is looking to enroll 400 patients with diabetes, and they will be placed into two groups - those with biopsy-proven diabetic kidney disease and those whose kidney disease is caused by something other than diabetes. The patients will be followed for 5 years. Dr. Argyropoulos is being supported by the PCI core with full coordination and T-1 lab testing and analysis.

Trident is an academic, investigator-initiated study aiming to transform diabetic kidney disease by discovering molecules associated with the progression of this disease. It does so, by looking into molecules expressed inside cells inside the kidney (obtained through kidney biopsies) and their levels in blood and urine using state of the art single cell and biofluid RNA analysis techniques.

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)

Approximately 5.6% of the population in the United States, and 4.5% in New Mexico, identify as part of the LGBTQIA+ community. This population has traditionally been considered “hard to reach” and there is little research about cancer control and prevention for those who identify as LGBTQIA+.

Dr. Prajakta Adsul, Assistant Professor in the Department of Internal Medicine and member of the UNM’s Comprehensive Cancer Center, is conducting a study titled, “Cancer Screening Among Sexual and Gender Diverse Individuals in New Mexico.” The study team used a state-wide online and mail survey to better understand cancer prevention, screening behaviors, and barriers in this population.

The CTSC Community Engagement Research Core piloted their first Community Engagement Studio on October 13th, 2021 for Dr. Adsul’s study. Based on the Vanderbilt University model, studios are a community conversation aimed at providing feedback to researchers on specific questions and considerations for the study. The studio was hosted via Zoom and 11 LGBTQIA+ community experts joined the CERC and Dr. Adsul’s team to provide their insights on communication strategies, future research endeavors, and opportunities to collaborate with the LGBTQIA+ community in New Mexico. Heidi Rishel Brakey MA, Senior Community and Qualitative Researcher, facilitated the two-hour long meeting. Other members of the CE team worked to recruit, coordinate, develop REDCap surveys, and provide technical support for the event. Post-survey responses revealed that 82% of experts would be interested in participating in future studios. Conversations at the studio generated important recommendations and insights from the LGBTQIA+ community that are currently being incorporated

in the research study. The CERC team is excited to provide this service to investigators and further expand their engagement with communities throughout New Mexico.

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

Informatics

Spearheaded by Laurie McPherson, the Informatics group is now collaborating with Dr. Margaret Greenwood-Ericksen on her study *“Emergency General Surgery Transfer Patterns and Clinical Outcomes in Rural States.”* This multi-center study is funded by The Clinical and Translational Science Awards (CTSAs) Inter-Institutional Pilot Project Award. The goal of the study is to understand Emergency General Surgery (EGS) interfacility transfer patterns and how existing practices contribute to outcome disparities for rural patients. Data are collected from UNM Research Data Warehouse (RDW), the electronic health record, and the Physician Access Line Service (PALS). The measures collected include transfer characteristics, patient demographics, clinical values, illness severity scores, procedures performed, and outcome measures. This data will then be integrated with the same measures collected by the University of Utah and University of Iowa which are also states with large rural catchment areas. By quantifying the effect of transfer practices on patient outcomes, these researchers may determine the extent to which developing standardized criteria can improve the high morbidity and mortality associated with Emergency General Surgery.

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](#)
- [Drug Repurposing](#)
- [KL2 Scholars](#)
- [Intramural Funding](#)
- [Laboratory Services](#)
- [Pilot Funding](#)
- [Trial Innovation Network](#)
- [Quality & Efficiency](#)
- [Regulatory Knowledge & Support](#)
- [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

Data Requests & "Using Data Courses"

The CTSC's Informatics core has helped hundreds of clinical researchers leverage UNMH's electronic health records and other medical databases to find eligible subjects for clinical trials, evaluate medical practice trends, and conduct longitudinal research projects upon nationwide cohorts. If you are interested in finding out more about how to use big data in your research please read the descriptions of our "Using Data Courses" <https://hsc.unm.edu/ctsc/training/training-catalog.html> , you may also register on this same webpage to attend the course. If you are interested in an overview for your staff or faculty zoom meeting please contact mvalencia-reed@salud.unm.edu to arrange for a presentation.

Informatics also supports REDCap, if you have any questions about REDCap, please contact the REDCap Support Team at HSC-CTSCREDCap@salud.unm.edu.

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

Community & Collaboration (C&C)

Team Science & Commercialization

What is Team Science?

Team science is defined by research in which individuals from various fields join together to work collaboratively toward the resolution of major health and social issues. The ultimate goal of such team-based research is to generate a deeper understanding of important issues and, in doing so, efficiently produce scientific discoveries that are more readily applicable.

Collaborative groups conducting team science research may include a wide range of individuals each offering their own unique expertise. They may include not only researchers, but also community members and policy makers. [By [Casey D. Calhoun](#) | [Psychological Science Agenda](#) | [April 2013](#)]

CTSC Team Science & Commercialization programs aim to strengthen team science opportunities and encourage interdisciplinary partnerships across UNM and our greater community with the goal of advancing better healthcare for New Mexico. These CTSC hosted programs include:

- Synergy Meetings: These forums highlight research, ongoing studies, clinical and translational methods, and collaboration opportunities on a specific topic and includes presentations from invited speakers. Upcoming Synergy meetings will focus on Data Sciences. [Contact Melanie Hazlett](#), CTSC Team Strategist, to request more information about the Fall 2021 CTSC Synergy Meetings
- CTSC Health Hackathon: This multi-day event invites academic & community participants to innovate, create and advance products to address problems in healthcare. It starts with anyone 'pitching' an idea, individuals then form teams to 'hack' a solution, culminating in a final competition where winning teams can be awarded \$10,000 in grant funding. CTSC is planning for a Spring 2022 Hackathon, send an email to hsc-hackathon@salud.unm.edu to get more information.
- CTSC BioVenture Partnership Event: This one-day event is designed 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. Plans are starting for a Fall 2022 BioVenture Partnership event, bookmark the [CTSC events webpage](#) to get the latest event news. <https://hsc.unm.edu/ctsc/events/>

The CTSC 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-CTSCTWDTraining@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 HS 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.

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)

The clinical research community is supported by the Federal Regulatory Support. This no cost service at the UNM HSC provides assistance with sponsor-investigator IND or IDE applications. This includes personal consultation and helpful templates through online modules on a range of topics related to FDA regulated studies. The goal is to provide the research community with the tools, training and support needed to navigate the complex regulatory pathways that accompany translational research. As part of this support, the UNM CTSC regulatory manager, Rebecca Brito, serves as a liaison to assist investigators in 4 key areas:

1. **Early Regulatory Strategy Development:** We encourage early interaction as a means to develop a regulatory strategy that is appropriate for the complexity of each research project.
2. **Regulatory Submissions and Maintenance:** We provide templates and consultation in preparation, submission, and maintenance of regulatory applications to the FDA.
3. **[ClinicalTrials.gov](#):** PRS administration that includes user account creation, maintenance, updates and consultation.
4. **Regulatory Education and Training:** We provide a variety of educational programs, including tailored educational seminars and recorded FDA webinars.

Assisting in these areas helps keep research studies on track and ensures a fluid process while developing each project. The goal of the UNM CTSC Regulatory Department is to help make each research project a success in translational science.

For more information on how we can help, please contact Rebecca Brito at rbrito@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:

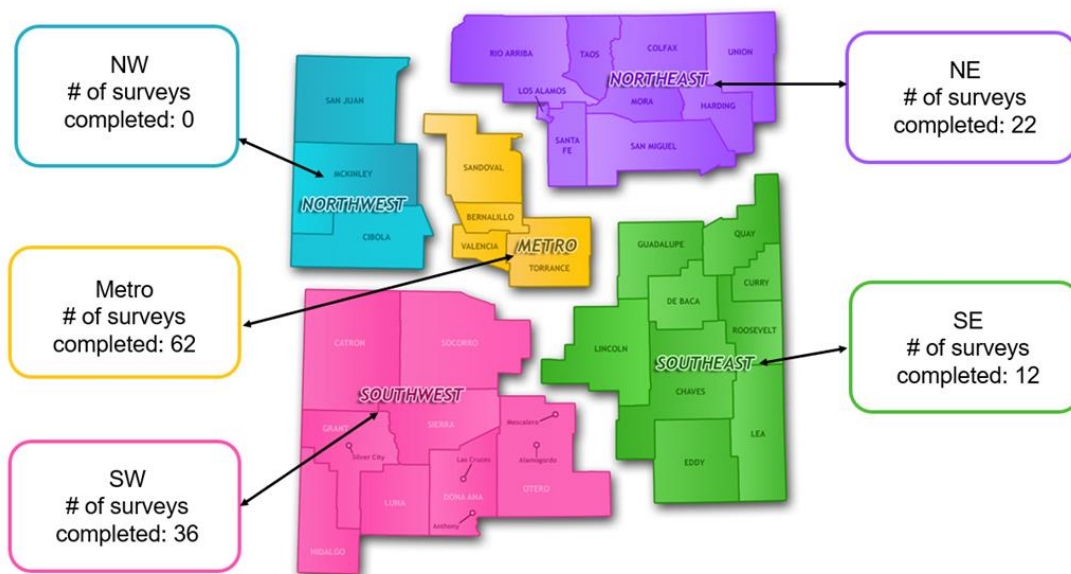
<https://hsc.unm.edu/research/ctsc/Community-Engaged-Research-Core/integrating-special-populations.html>

CHN (Community Health Network)

CHN continues to make connections with our neighboring communities in rural New Mexico. Cynthia Killough, the program manager & CTSC's Community Health Specialist, has been attending as many virtual community health council meetings around the state as possible. These meetings provide a wealth of information about health disparities and concerns that are important to rural communities. The meetings also provide a way for Cynthia to introduce health research at UNM and help break down stigma associated with research in general.

At the end of 2020, and beginning of 2021, Dr. Carla Wilhite, conducted a mixed-methods study about the effects of COVID-19 on New Mexicans through a CTSC pilot award. Participants could do the survey online from the safety of their homes and choose to be in the qualitative interview portion of the study as well. Cynthia was able to promote the study and share the link to the survey with every health council she attends (approximately 13). In some cases, the health councils also promoted the survey through their social media platforms. In total there were 25 interviews conducted over the phone and 132 surveys completed. The figure below shows the number of participants by NM quadrant. What does the data tell us?

Cynthia noticed there were no surveys completed in the Northwest region of the state, and Cynthia does attend a health council there. Cynthia plans on bringing the data back to the Northwest quadrant to share the information with the community. This will also help Cynthia gauge what works and what does not in terms of study promotion whenever there are future opportunities for study participants from this region. It is important to always bring data back to where we promote studies so community members stay in the loop about research going on in their communities.



<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 import 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.

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)
Notice of Special Interest (NOSI):	NOT-MD-22-001	NIMHD, NIDA	Oct 25, 2021		Feb 2, 2022	333

Administrative Supplements to Support Addiction Science and Related Neuroscience Pilot Research Projects at NIMHD-Funded Research Centers in Minority Institutions (RCMI)						
Notice of Special Interest (NOSI) Announcing the Availability of Administrative Supplements and Urgent Competitive Revisions for Research on the 2019 Novel Coronavirus	NOT-DA-21-041	NIDA	Apr 15, 2021	PA-20-272 PA-18-935 (Urgent Supplement)	Mar 31, 2022	333
Notice of Special Interest (NOSI): Availability of Urgent Competitive Revisions for Modeling Research on Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) and the Causative Virus SARS-CoV-2	NOT-GM-21-019	NIGMS	Feb 25, 2021	PA-18-935	Dec 16, 2021	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 PA-20-146	Sep 8, 2024	R01, R03, R21
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	NOT-TR-21-017	NCATS	Feb 3, 2021	PA-20-272	Aug 17, 2024	333

Science Award (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 vaping on the risk and outcome of COVID-19 infection	NOT-DA-21-011	NIDA	Jan 26, 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: 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): Research to Address Vaccine Hesitancy, Uptake, and Implementation among Populations that Experience Health Disparities	NOT-MD-21-008	NIMHD, NIAID, NIAMS, NCI, ORWH, NIMH, NINR, OBSSR, ODP, NHLBI, NIDCR, SGMRO	Dec 17, 2020	PA-20-183 PA-20-185	Jan 8, 2022	R01
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 Cooperative Agreements to Understand HIV	NOT-HD-21-037	NICHD	Jul 2, 2021	PA-20-272 PA-18-935 NOT-OD-20-128 NOT-OD-20-118 NOT-OD-20-018	May 8, 2022	333

Health Impacts of COVID-19						
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
Notice of Special Interest (NOSI) regarding the Availability of Emergency Competitive Revisions to Existing NIH Grants and Cooperative Agreements for Tissue Chips Research on the 2019 Novel Coronavirus	NOT-TR-20-017	NCATS	Apr 9, 2020	PA-20-135	Jan 26, 2022	333
Notice of Special Interest (NOSI) regarding the Availability of Administrative Supplements for Tissue Chips Research on the 2019 Novel Coronavirus	NOT-TR-20-016	NCATS	Apr 9, 2020	PA-18-591	Jan 26, 2022	333
Emergency Competitive Revision to	PA-20-135	NIH, NCATS, NCCIH, NCI, NHGRI, NIA,	Mar 10, 2020	PA-20-135	Sep 8, 2025	333

Existing NIH Awards (Emergency Supplement - Clinical Trial Optional)		NIAAA , NIAID , NIAMS , NIBIB , NICHD , NIDCD , NIDDK , NIEHS , NIGMS , NIMH , NIMHD , NINR , NLM , ORWH , OSC				
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 , NID A	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!

HS in the News

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