

Clinical & Translational Science Center Newsletter

July 2022

Letter from the Director

Dear Colleagues,



Summer is here and so is the hot weather, and thankfully some much needed rain. We are entering the new 2023 fiscal year and time to launch new projects. New funding opportunities can now be found online at <https://hsc.unm.edu/research/news/funding-ops.html>.

The research of our present and past KL 2 scholars, respectively, Darrell Dinwiddie, Ph.D., and Daryl Domman, Ph.D., was recently highlighted by the NIH's [Biomedical Beat Blog – National Institute of General Medical Sciences](#) showcasing their work with COVID-19 genomic surveillance in New Mexico. Through their work they helped the NMDOH release a public announcement within a day of detection of the Omicron variant in the state.

On Friday, June 24th CTSC hosted the annual Joseph V. Scaletti Memorial Lecture as part of a Special CMBD Lecture Series with presenter Manisha Jhamb, MD, MPH. Dr. Jhamb's talk focused on innovations in population health that are improving outcomes in patients with chronic kidney disease, including the affects COVID-19 had on the disease and how the pandemic reshaped treatment options. The Joseph V. Scaletti Memorial Lecture is held to honor one of the UNM School of Medicine's founding members.

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

The Participation Clinical Interactions (PCI) is supporting a new study of Dr. Sara Assaf, who has teamed up with Dr. Sood on a subaward (R2R) for his Keeping rural minority 'essential' workplaces open safely during the COVID-19 pandemic: The role of frequent point-of-care molecular workplace surveillance for miners (The Miners' Pandemic Project). The project's long-term goal is to mitigate the spread of the pandemic in miners, a population of high-risk. The objective of the sub-study is to look at the facilitators and barriers of COVID-19 test uptake at the Peabody El Segundo mine.

The Community Engagement and Research Core (CERC) team is currently supporting the research of Dr. Mary Pat Couig, on a project titled: "Nurses on the Frontline Caring for Patients with COVID-19: Lived Experiences". It will examine individual, government, systems, and organizational factors that continue to influence nursing support and nurses' ability to provide care during the COVID-19

pandemic. The results hope to identify areas of intervention to inform future strategies for public health emergencies, specifically related to issues with high consequence infections and future pandemics.

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.

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: Robert Rhyne, MD, MPH

Collaboration and Commercialization Module Lead: Eric Prossnitz, PhD

Translational Endeavors (TE) Component Director: Craig Wong, MD, MPH

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: Susan Kunkel, PharmD
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: Christos Argyropoulos, MD
Network Capacity (NC) Component Director: Hengameh Raissy, PharmD
Trial Innovation Network (TIN) Module Lead: Hengameh Raissy, PharmD
Drug Discovery & Repurposing Core Lead: Angela Wandinger-Ness, PhD
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

UNM HSC Researchers Highlighted by the NIH

UNM HSC Professors' Darrell Dinwiddie, Ph.D., and Daryl Domman, Ph.D., were highlighted by the NIH in their [Biomedical Beat Blog – National Institute of General Medical Sciences](#) showcasing their work with COVID-19 genomic surveillance in New Mexico. In December 2021, in a SARS-CoV-2 genomic surveillance program, supported by a grant from NIGMS, the team detected the first known case of the Omicron variant in the state. They quickly contacted the New Mexico Department of Health, who released a public announcement the next day encouraging people to wear masks and receive COVID-19 vaccine booster shots to help reduce the variant's spread. Due to the team's quick action, it took less than a week from the time the patient was tested until a public announcement was made.

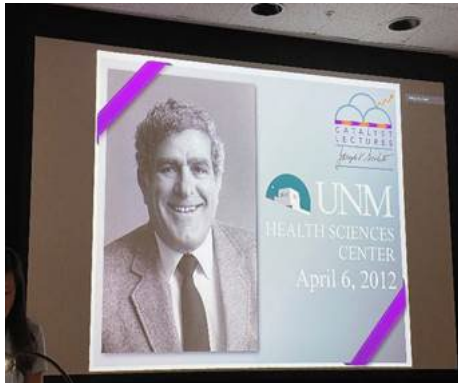
Read the full story [here](#).

Joseph V. Scaletti Memorial Lecture as Part of a Special CMBD Lecture Series

On Friday, June 24th CTSC hosted the successful Joseph V. Scaletti Memorial Lecture as part of a Special CMBD Lecture Series with presenter Manisha Jhamb, MD, MPH. Dr. Jhamb's talk focused on innovations in population health that are improving outcomes in patients with chronic kidney disease, including the affects COVID-19 had on the disease and how the pandemic reshaped treatment options.

The Joseph V. Scaletti Memorial Lecture is held annually to honor one of the UNM School of Medicine's founding members. In his 50+ Dr. Scaletti served as UNM's first Vice President for Research, creator of the Allied Health Sciences program, organizer of the first Rural Health Interdisciplinary Program, chair of the first legislative committee on distance education and telehealth, co-founder of Project ECHO (now an internationally renowned telementoring program), as well as a highly regarded educator, mentor, and researcher. Each year, the lecture features an individual, institution, or idea responsible for accelerating the rate of positive change and forward progress in the areas of biomedical research, healthcare education, innovative healthcare delivery, and state-of-the-art patient care.

This year's presenter, Dr. Jhamb, is the Associate Chief for the Renal-Electrolyte Division, Director for the Center for Population Health Management, Co-Director for Clinical Research in the Renal-Electrolyte Division, and an Associate Professor of Medicine (with Tenure) at the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine. Dr. Jhamb is an academic nephrologist, with over 10 years' experience conducting clinical research in patients with Kidney Disease. Her research is aimed at understanding and improving patient-centered outcomes in patients with advanced kidney disease. Dr. Jhamb has also been researching the use of electronic health records to improve delivery and safety of chronic kidney disease care, especially to vulnerable populations who are at the highest risk of developing end-stage kidney disease and do not have access to timely nephrology care.



Participation Clinical Interactions (PCI)

Dr. Sara Assaf, Assistant Professor, Pulmonary and Critical Care, Department of Internal Medicine, teamed up with Dr. Sood on a subaward (R2R) for his Keeping rural minority 'essential' workplaces open safely during the COVID-19 pandemic: The role of frequent point-of-care molecular workplace surveillance for miners (The Miners' Pandemic Project).

The Miners' project's long-term goal is to mitigate the spread of the pandemic in miners, a population of high-risk, rural essential workers who are susceptible and vulnerable to COVID-19, partly based on exposure to particulate air pollution, and who are predominantly racial/ethnic minorities in New Mexico. The study objective of the sub-study is to look at the facilitators and barriers of COVID-19 test uptake at the Peabody El Segundo mine.

Participants will be recruited from the Peabody El Segundo mine site and will be participants of the parent study. Peabody El Segundo is a surface coal mine and has engineering, administrative and personal protective measures in place, including SARS-CoV-2 symptom and fever screening. While there will be frequent point-of-care molecular testing at the intervention site and seroprevalence

surveys as part of the parent study, the R2R surveys will assist in assessing the spread of infections in miners. This study is supported by the PCI service core.

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

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

Community Engagement and Research Core (CERC)

Dr. Mary Pat Couig, Associate Professor in the College of Nursing and recipient of the Carter/Fleck Endowed Professorship, is the principal investigator of the project titled: “Nurses on the Frontline Caring for Patients with COVID-19: Lived Experiences”. The study is part of the “Nursing Call to Action”, an initiative of the Department of Veterans Affairs, Veterans Health Administration, Veterans Emergency Management Evaluation Center (VEMEC) to guide healthcare organizations in improving levels of nursing preparation and the provision of nursing care throughout public health emergencies. This project will examine individual, government, systems, and organizational factors that continue to influence nursing support and nurses’ ability to provide care during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Nurses provide crucial leadership throughout the processes of mitigation, response, and recovery during public health emergencies and contribute to the protection of at-risk populations during times of disaster ([Couig et al., 2021](#)). To identify local and system factors that have supported or hindered nurses’ ability to provide integral care to patients throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, interviews will be conducted with nurses from different regions in the United States. Potential respondents will be from both inside and outside of the VA and work in a variety of healthcare settings including hospitals, long-term and residential care facilities, and community-based or public health response teams.

The study has three main objectives. The first is to understand nurses’ experiences in caring for patients with COVID-19. The second objective is to examine nurses’ perceptions of strategies that best support nursing practice during public health emergencies. Finally, this study will examine nurses’ perceptions of policies that facilitate or interfere with the nursing response. The results will potentially identify areas of intervention to inform strategies for public health emergencies specific to issues related to high consequence infections and future pandemics. The CTSC Community Engagement and Research Core (CERC) is pleased to support this important research to expand knowledge of multi-level factors that influence nurses’ ability to provide care.

Couig, M. P., Travers, J. L., Polivka, B., Castner, J., Veenema, T. G., Stokes, L., & Sattler, B. (2021). At-Risk populations and public health emergency preparedness in the United States: Nursing leadership in communities. *Nursing Outlook*, 69(4), 699–703. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.outlook.2021.06.005>

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

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

Under the supervision of PI Amy Clithero-Eridon, PhD, 4th-year medical students, Taska van Swol and Shana Vorenberg, will be using EHR data collected by the Informatics core to analyze the effectiveness of telemedicine visits as measured by subsequent visits to the Emergency Department'

The aim of this retrospective study is to determine whether patients who have had a telemedicine visit with their primary care provider are subsequently seen in the UNMH Emergency Department within 1 week of their telemedicine visit. Through gathering this data, they anticipate assessing the effectiveness of telemedicine visits.

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

CTSC Team Science Activities

CTSC Education and Training. CTSC courses focus on building a strong foundation and skill set in research through special training seminars specific to Team Science and Commercialization. New courses opened in April 2022, and are open to all staff, faculty, and students. More information and registration can be found on the [CTSC Training Catalog webpage](#).

CTSC Annual BioVenture Partnership Event. Save the Date for Friday, November 11, 2022, for the annual CTSC BioVenture Partnership event, which is open to faculty, residents, students, and the community. BioVenture aims to create important connections between UNM HSC Research and local biotech business to build long-term interorganizational relationships.

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.

CTSC Translation Synergy Meetings. These meetings welcome both specific and interdisciplinary research communities, from early-career scientists, established investigators, to students, as we strive to enable better networking, collaboration, teaching, and leadership. *If you would like to be a speaker or are seeking collaboration opportunities* contact the [CTSC Team Strategist](#), about the Fall 2022 CTSC Synergy Meetings.

ASCEND Hub (Accelerating Solutions for Commercialization and Entrepreneurial Development). ASCEND is a [Regional Technology Transfer Accelerator Hub](#) for the seven Mountain West [IDeA](#) States: Alaska, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, and Wyoming. ASCEND programs promote entrepreneurship, technology transfer, and other skills needed to move discoveries and technologies out of the lab and into commercial products that address human health.

For more information about any of the CTSC Team Science activities, [contact Melanie Hazlett](#), CTSC Team Strategist.

<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 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)

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, Samiha Mateen, 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 Samiha Mateen at smateen@salud.unm.edu

Hub Research Capacity (HRC)

Integrating Special Populations (ISP)

The aim of the CTSC ISP team 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)

The Community Health Network is managed by CTSC's Community Health Specialist, Cynthia Killough, who serves as a liaison between investigators at UNM and communities in the state of New Mexico. Consultations about the Community Health Network's services, and actual services provided by the Community Health Specialist are *free* to investigators.

During a free consultation we can cover topics such as:

- project needs
- community involvement
- community partners available for immediate contact
- strategies for participant recruitment with communities
- data dissemination
- resources already available to investigators

Interested in a free consultation? Contact the [CTSC Concierge](#) to tell us about your project's needs & the Community Health Specialist will follow-up with you ASAP.

The Community Health Network connects investigators and communities. Throughout the year, the Community Health Specialist attends community meetings, such as [health councils](#) across the state,

gives presentations about the Community Health Network, and promotes research studies and research participation opportunities. The Community Health Specialist also meets with community members, tours health clinics (as circumstances allow), and develops partnerships and networks with community members.

Although COVID-19 has currently stopped all in-person meetings, we still network virtually whenever possible. Creating relationships with communities helps reduce stigma about research and creates a more organic flow to introduce research studies from the UNM HSC community.

Networking also allows the Community Health Specialist to learn about health disparities, community research, and health priorities around the state from locals. A valuable resource on health disparities data is available from the [UNM HSC County Health Report Cards](#) which is updated and published annually.

It is vital to our community engagement work that we also learn about what health concerns our neighboring communities have. Our hope is that communities will also reach out to investigators at UNM for their own research interests and needs through the Community Health Specialist.

<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.

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): COVID-19 Related Revisions to NINDS ADRD Human Subjects Cooperative Agreement Programs	NOT-NS-23-001	NINDS, NIA	Jun 21, 2022		Aug 12, 2022	333
Notice of Special Interest (NOSI): Stimulating Research to Understand and Address Hunger, Food and Nutrition Insecurity	NOT-OD-22-135	ONR, FIC, NCI, NHLBI, NIAMS, NICHD, NIDCR, NIDDK, NIMH, NIMHD, NINR, OAR, OBSSR, ODP, ODS, PN, ORWH	Jun 21, 2022		Nov 29, 2024	R01, 333, R21, K01, R34, R33, R61/R33, UG3/UH3, K43
Coordinating Center for the HIV/AIDS and Substance Use Cohorts Program (U24 Clinical Trial Not Allowed)	RFA-DA-23-052	NIDA	Jun 13, 2022		Aug 11, 2022	U24

NICHD Program Project Grants for HIV Research (P01 Clinical Trial Optional)	RFA-HD-23-026	NICHD	May 23, 2022		Aug 11, 2022	P01
Notice of Special Interest: Administrative Supplements to Advance Precision Medicine Using the All of Us Research Programs Data	NOT-PM-22-002	OD, NCATS, NCCIH, NCI, NEI, NHGRI, NHLBI, NIA, NIAAA, NIAID, NIAMS, NIBIB, NICHD, NIDA, NIDCD, NIDCR, NIDDK, NIEHS, NIGMS, NIMH, NIMHD, NINDS, NINR, NLM, OAR, OBSSR, ODSS, ORWH, RM, SGMRO	May 20, 2022		Jul 6, 2022	333
Limited Competition: Clinical and Translational Science Award (CTSA) Program: Collaborative and Innovative Acceleration Award (UG3/UH3 Clinical Trial Optional)	PAR-22-167	NCATS, NIAMS, NICHD, NIDCR, NIGMS, NIMHD, OBSSR, ORWH	May 9, 2022		Oct 18, 2024	UG3/UH3
NICHD Maternal-Fetal Medicine Units (MFMU) Network: Data Coordinating Center (U24 Clinical Trial Optional)	RFA-HD-23-017	NICHD	May 6, 2022		Aug 12, 2022	U24

Policy and Alzheimers Disease (AD) and Alzheimers Disease-Related Dementias (ADRD) Healthcare Disparities: Access, Utilization, and Quality (R01 Clinical Trial Not Allowed)	RFA-AG-23-024	NIA	May 6, 2022		Oct 21, 2022	R01
Notice of Special Interest (NOSI): IMPROVE Initiative: Implementation Science to Advance Maternal Health and Maternal Health Equity	NOT-OD-22-125	OD	May 5, 2022		Jul 17, 2022	R01, R03, R21
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	NOT-HD-22-003	NICHD, NIAAA, NIDA, NINDS, OBSSR, ORWH	Apr 19, 2022		Jun 6, 2024	333

<p>Related to the Health and Well-Being of Women, Children and Individuals with Physical and/or Intellectual Disabilities</p>						
<p>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</p>	<p>NOT-HD-22-002</p>	<p>NICHD, NIDA, NIEHS, NINDS, OBSSR, ORWH</p>	<p>Mar 28, 2022</p>		<p>Jun 6, 2024</p>	<p>R01, R21</p>
<p>Understanding and Addressing Misinformation among Populations that Experience Health Disparities (R01 - Clinical Trials Optional)</p>	<p>RFA-MD-22-008</p>	<p>NIMHD, NCI</p>	<p>Mar 22, 2022</p>		<p>Nov 14, 2022</p>	<p>R01</p>
<p>Accelerating the Pace of Child Health Research Using Existing Data from the Adolescent Brain Cognitive</p>	<p>PAR-22-138</p>	<p>NIMH, NIAAA, NIEHS, ORWH</p>	<p>Mar 15, 2022</p>		<p>May 8, 2025</p>	<p>R21</p>

Development (ABCD) Study (R21-Clinical 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
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	NOT-HL-22-010	NHLBI	Jan 31, 2022		May 8, 2025	R01

barriers to care and risk of HIV-associated comorbidities among vulnerable population groups						
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	NOT- OD-22- 030	ORWH, NIDA, NEI, NIDCD, NIEHS, NHGRI, NIMH, NIAID, NINR, NICHD, NHLBI, NCCIH, NIAAA, SGMRO, NCATS, NIDCR, NIAMS,	Dec 2, 2021		Jan 27, 2023	333

Influences (Admin Supp Clinical Trial Optional)		ORIP, NIDDK, NIBIB, NIA				
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	NOT- DA-21- 018	NIDA	Feb 3, 2021	PA-20- 184 PA-20- 183 PA-20- 200	Sep 8, 2024	R01, R03, R21

<p>Individuals Living with HIV and Substance Use Disorders</p>				<p>PA-20-195 PA-20-194 PA-20-196 PA-20-146</p>		
<p>Notice of Special Interest (NOSI): Administrative Supplements for the Clinical and Translational Science Award (CTSA) Program to Address COVID-19 Public Health Needs</p>	<p>NOT-TR-21-017</p>	<p>NCATS</p>	<p>Feb 3, 2021</p>	<p>PA-20-272</p>	<p>Aug 17, 2024</p>	<p>333</p>
<p>Notice of Special Interest (NOSI): NIDCR Support for Research on the Physiological Involvement of Oral Cavity in Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)</p>	<p>NOT-DE-21-001</p>	<p>NIDCR</p>	<p>Jan 26, 2021</p>	<p>PA-20-185 PA-20-195</p>	<p>May 28, 2023</p>	<p>R01, R21</p>
<p>Notice of Special Interest (NOSI): Aging-Relevant Behavioral and Social Research on Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)</p>	<p>NOT-AG-21-015</p>	<p>NIA</p>	<p>Jan 26, 2021</p>	<p>PA-20-183 PA-20-184 PA-20-185 PA-20-200 PA-20-194</p>	<p>May 28, 2023</p>	<p>R01, R03, R21, U19, P01, R21/R33</p>

				PA-20-196 PA-20-195 PAR-19-374 PAR-19-314 PAR-19-070 PAR-19-071 PAR-20-070		
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): 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): 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	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

Persons with Disabilities						
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

For additional Health Sciences news, please visit:

<http://hscnews.unm.edu/>

News or corrections?

Please contact [the Newsletter Team](#).

The University Of New Mexico Mailing Address:

One University of New Mexico

MSC 08 4635

Albuquerque, NM 87131