

Arkansas Center for Clinical and Translational Research

CCTR Pilot Award for Innovative Clinical and Translational Research

INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE PRE-PROPOSAL ONLY

The Arkansas Center for Clinical and Translational Research (CCTR) at UAMS invites applications for the CCTR Pilot Research Awards. The Pilot Research Awards are up to \$50,000 and will provide funding for one year. Awards are eligible for a one-year, competing continuation.

Purpose

The overall goal of the CCTR is to transform the pace, effectiveness, and quality of translational research among UAMS and its partners, resulting in better health for all Arkansans. The Clinical and Translational Pilot Research Awards of the CCTR intend to 1) facilitate research innovation and progress, 2) stimulate and solidify research collaborations and 3) promote high-quality translational research. The CCTR defines **translational science** as that which transforms scientific discoveries arising from laboratory, clinical, or population studies into clinical applications to reduce disease incidence, morbidity, and mortality. We conceptualize translational research as occurring on a bi-directional continuum of T1 through T4 research that addresses human health questions and creates human health interventions.

- **T1** research jump-starts the process of translation of bench research to the patient bedside, generally in a limited fashion. This is where basic science discoveries directly related to human health, case study/pilot clinical research, and Phase 1 and 2 clinical trials usually occur.
- **T2** expands that sphere of discovery to larger patient populations in Phase 3 and 4 clinical trials, observational studies, or survey research in target populations. New discoveries can result in need for more translational research in basic sciences (T2→T1) or influence T3 research (T2→T3).
- **T3**, the practice-oriented stage of translational science, uses dissemination and implementation research to answer such questions as: Is treatment X actually being used in the community-at-large, and if not, why not? The identification of new clinical questions, barriers, and gaps in care related to treatment X are the focus at this stage.
- If **T1→T3** studies reach their goals and data indicate efficacious practices or results, new policy or outcomes research is engendered in **T4**. Do existing laws or policies for insurance reimbursement allow equal access or implementation of treatment X to target populations? Is treatment X more effective or of equal effectiveness than other standard of care practices?

The 2011 Pilot Studies will target specific focus areas that reflect UAMS strengths and research priorities established by the NCRR, UAMS, and the CCTR. Applicants will be asked to identify which focus area(s) their project addresses.

Award programs are intended to support novel research studies; these awards will not support projects that are minor offshoots of ongoing research by a funded investigator or provide bridge funding to previously funded investigators.

The Pilot Research Award is intended to provide the data necessary to **quickly advance to extramural funding**, solidify collaborations poised to advance translational research, and support investigators preparing to translate research findings into clinical trials, community implementation, and/or improvements in healthcare delivery. Special emphasis is placed on studies to apply for extramural research funding. These awards aim to support translational studies focused on accelerating research discovery in health-related sciences and improving healthcare and community health.

Eligibility

Full-time faculty at UAMS and affiliates (Arkansas Children's Hospital, Arkansas Department of Health, CAVHS) who hold non-temporary positions at the rank of Instructor or above are eligible for these awards. Individuals at the level of Instructor require a letter from their department chairperson confirming that the individual is not in a temporary position and that the department intends to develop the individual as a faculty member. **Highest priority will be given to investigators likely to obtain extramural funding, those obtaining critical data that will significantly advance their research toward a novel intervention (FDA IND,**

Phase I trials, community implementation), and those with high potential for a transformative impact on human health or healthcare delivery.

Application process

The CCTR Pilot Research Awards require the submission of a one-page summary of the proposed research. These pre-proposal summaries will be submitted, along with a short survey, online at <http://tinyurl.com/Subxkxo>. The survey information and summaries will be reviewed and scored, and full applications will be invited from the initial pool.

The 2011 Pilot Studies will target focus areas that reflect UAMS strengths and the Chancellor's research priorities for UAMS. Applicants are asked to identify the focus area(s) germane to their project. The CCTR Pilot Study focus areas include:

- Cancer
- Cardiovascular Health
- Community Engaged Research
- Neurological Disorders
- Obesity/Diabetes
- Pediatric Research
- Substance Abuse/Addiction
- Telemedicine

Pilot Research Award applications must provide information on each of the following points, which will be **major factors** in selection of the pre-proposal for submission of a full proposal:

Project Summary

1. Summarize the project and the importance of the proposed research to the stated focus area of the application.

Translational Impact/Innovation

2. Discuss the significance of this project in terms of innovation, translational potential, and impact on human health.

PI Qualifications

3. Describe how the proposed research team is well suited to conduct this study and advance this area of research.

Plan for Extramural Funding

4. Describe your specific plan of obtaining extramural funding. This should include funding agency, study title, date of submission, and length of proposed project. If you have a specific RFA or program announcement, please provide the link to the announcement or PA number and agency.

Deadline for submission of the pre-proposal summary is **5:00 pm, May 26, 2011**. Applicants are encouraged to identify a member of the CCTR Rainmaker group or contact the Program Manager to ensure their project aligns with the intent of the RFA and for help accessing CCTR resources.

Submission URL: <http://tinyurl.com/Subxkxo>

Pre-proposal format

Proposals should be typed, single spaced with .5 inch margins, and no longer than one page. Acceptable fonts are Arial, Tahoma, or Calibri with a font size of 11pt. Figure and Table legends may use smaller font, but no smaller than 9pt. Please use appropriate headings in preparing your proposal. All submissions should be prepared with word processing software and be submitted in a Word (.doc) file format.

Application review and award selection

This year's review process will proceed in two phases: an initial pre-proposal from applicants will be reviewed and scored on the following criteria: the translational impact/innovation, investigator qualifications, and the path to extramural funding. From these reviews, full applications will be invited, and all full applications will be peer-reviewed for scientific and technical merit. Based on these

assessments, applications will receive a score and funding recommendation. Applications recommended for funding will be presented to the CCTR Cabinet for final approval.

If you have any questions regarding this RFA or assistance in contacting a Rainmaker, please contact Paul Duguid at (501) 319-4513 or email pduguid@uams.edu.