CTSA PROGRAM UPDATE
February 24, 2017

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

CTSA PROGRAM + VETERAN AFFAIRS (VA)
If you are interested in joining a group that will brainstorm ideas on how the CTSA Program can better coordinate with the VA, please forward your name and email to Samantha Jonson by Wednesday, March 1st. Discussions will be co-led by P.J. Brooks (NCATS) and Joel Tsevat (Cincinnati).

CTSA PROGRAM + CONSENT
If you are interested in joining a group that will brainstorm ideas on how the CTSA Program can develop best practices regarding consent for patients to have their de-identified clinical data used in research and be contacted for participation in future research studies, please forward your name and email to Samantha Jonson by Wednesday, March 1st. Discussions will be co-led by Redonna Chandler (NCATS) and Kathleen Brady (MUSC).

SEEKING CTSA PROGRAM PI WEBINAR PRESENTATIONS
In order to highlight the exciting projects and practices at local hubs and bring them to the broader CTSA Program consortium for discussion, NCATS is seeking presentations for the monthly CTSA Program PI Webinars (4th Wednesday of the month, from 2 – 3 p.m. ET). Presentations should be broadly applicable to the entire CTSA Program, focus on clinical and translational science, and be disease agnostic. Some examples include best practices, demonstration projects for proposed or potential dissemination, and local collaborative projects that promote synergy across the consortium. Presentations should be 30 minutes long and will be followed by 30 minutes of discussion among the PIs.

Please send a brief abstract for your presentation to Samantha Jonson for consideration by the CTSA Program Steering Committee. We will be accepting proposed topics on a rolling basis.

Questions? Contact Samantha Jonson.

COMMON METRICS

UPDATED COMMON METRICS OPERATIONAL GUIDELINES
The Common Metrics Operational Guidelines have been updated. These updates include numerator and denominator statements to assist with calculating metric values, purpose statements describing the intent of the metric, and revised field titles and descriptions to simplify the format and eliminate redundant information. It is important to note that nothing has changed about how the metrics are calculated. These updates are simply meant to add guidance and clarity to the process based on what has been learned during the implementation.

As always, the most up-to-date versions of the Operational Guidelines are located on the project resource website, under “Common Metrics Operational Guidelines.”

Questions? Contact Samantha Jonson.

DOMAIN TASKFORCE (DTF) UPDATES

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT DOMAIN TASKFORCE
CTSA Program Career Sustainability Survey of KL2 Programs: The Workforce Development DTF is
soliciting Administrators to respond to a survey, with a goal to achieve 100% survey response from across the national CTSA Program consortium. The purpose of the survey is to identify the historical and current practices of KL2 programs in the CTSA Program 2.0 and their impact on short- and mid-term scholar outcomes. We hope to identify and share "best practices" across the CTSA Program consortium that may contribute to scholar success. Administrators should have received an email from the Workforce Development DTF team with more information and with a direct link to the survey. Contact workforce_development@ctsac4.org for more information or questions.

INFORMATICS DOMAIN TASKFORCE

In-person meeting: The Informatics DTF will hold an in-person meeting on March 31st from 8 a.m. – 12 noon PT in San Francisco following the AMIA Joint Summits on Translational Science Conference. If you would like to attend, please register here. The program committee has had two planning meetings, and a tentative agenda for the meeting includes:

1. Welcome by Justin Starren (Northwestern)
2. Brief presentation by Ken Gersing (NCATS) with time Q&A
3. 12-14 presentations, five minutes each (no Q&A, discussions may occur during the “unconference” session that follows and/or offline)
4. An “unconference” session in which we will split into approximately six groups based on the topics that get the most votes (these topics do not have to be from the talks given earlier in the day)
5. Closing remarks

We are currently soliciting topics/speakers. Please email C4.informaticsdtf@ctsac4.org if you are interested in presenting.

Sustainable Informatics Workgroup: The group is continuing to refine the content and focus of their paper. The publication will serve as a landscape analysis and aggregate “lessons learned” around sustaining clinical research informatics infrastructure across a critical mass of diverse CTSA programs.

LIFESPAN DOMAIN TASKFORCE

In-person meeting: The in-person meeting will take place on May 6th from 10 a.m. – 12 noon PT in San Francisco.

- The group is beginning to work on a “Toolkit for Lifecourse Research.”
- The group has been asked to provide input on the following 21st Century Cures Act questions:
  1) “Appropriate age groups to be included in research studies involving human subjects”
  2) “Acceptable justifications for excluding participants from a range of age groups from human subjects research studies.”

General updates: The full Lifespan DTF and Early Life Exposure Working Group are working with the All of Us (previously known as the Precision Medicine Initiative [PMI]) Team to create questions for a “Childhood Module.”

COLLABORATION/ENGAGEMENT DOMAIN TASKFORCE

In-person meeting: The Collaboration/Engagement DTF will hold an in-person meeting in Washington, D.C., on April 19th from 12:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. ET.

Election results: The Collaboration/Engagement DTF welcomes to the Lead Team: Syed Ahmed, DrPh, FAAP, Senior Dean for Community Engagement, Medical College of Wisconsin; Tabia Akintobi, PhD, MPH, Director & Associate Dean, Prevention Center & Community Engagement, Morehouse School of Medicine; and Louisa Stark, PhD, Professor, Department of Human Genetics, University of Utah!

METHODS AND PROCESSES DOMAIN TASKFORCE

In-person meeting: The Methods and Processes Lead Team is planning a half-day in-person meeting the morning of April 19th at the Omni Shoreham Hotel in Washington, D.C. Meeting invitations have been sent to all DTF and workgroup members along with a draft meeting agenda.

Institutional Readiness for Team Science Workgroup: The workgroup has expanded their request for School of Medicine promotion and tenure documents from all Methods and Processes DTF members.
**DACTPerM Workgroup:** The workgroup is working on a white paper that will serve as guidelines for designing and analyzing clinical trials for personalized medicine and testing heterogeneity of treatment effects.

**EMR-Based Research Recruitment Workgroup:** This workgroup is developing best practices/recommendations regarding the use of EMR’s to recruit potential research participants and developing educational materials targeting IRBs, PCP/treating providers and patients regarding the recruitment process using EMR (PowerPoint, draft letters, newsletter inserts, online tools). The workgroup is working on data analysis and white paper edits.

**Regulatory Science to Advance Precision Medicine (Joint Effort with Workforce Development DTF):** The workgroup presented this new project to the CTSA Program Steering Committee (SC) on January 9th. The CTSA Program SC supported the project proposal and will be moving forward towards implementation. Current membership includes individuals from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA), Precision Medicine Coalition, Methods & Processes DTF, and Workforce Development DTF.

**Assessment of CTSA Institutions Strategies for Engaging Community Partners (Joint Effort with Collaboration DTF):** This is a new workgroup, which was proposed at the February 13th CTSA Program SC Webinar. The CTSA Program SC supported the project proposal and will be moving forward with implementation.

Questions? For more information on the DTFs (including points-of-contact), click [here](#).

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### HUB SPONSORED MEETINGS ON CTSA CENTRAL WEBSITE

CTSA Program hubs can upload information about important meetings they host to the C4 Coordinating Center website, [CTSA Central](#), in order to spread the word about sponsored conferences, activities, and/or items relevant to the CTSA Program and the advancement of translational science. Hubs can upload conference or meeting information [here](#).

Recent additions include:

- **Northwestern University:** Enhancing Quality in the Translational Research (EQuaTR) Workforce Conference
- **Harvard University:** 2017 Child Health Symposium – Putting Kids First: Facilitating Multisite Pediatric Studies
- **National Research Mentoring Network/University of Pittsburgh:** Professional Mentoring Skills Enhancing Diversity (PROMISED) Program
- **Tufts University:** Tufts CTSI Stakeholder and Community Engagement Symposium
- **Big Data to Knowledge Training Coordinating Center:** Quantitative Approaches to Biomedical Data Science Challenges in our Understanding of the Microbiome

Questions? Contact [Colleen Lawrence](#).

## FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

### CTSA PROGRAM DATA TO HEALTH (CD2H) COORDINATING CENTER

NCATS held a Pre-Application Technical Assistance Webinar for [RFA-TR-17-006 “CTSA Program Data to Health (CD2H) Coordinating Center (U24)”](#) on March 23rd. The link to the webinar recording is [here](#).

Speakers provided pre-application technical assistance and conveyed important information to prospective grant applicants, including an in-depth discussion of the funding opportunity announcement and what to expect in the peer-review process. The webinar and FAQs will be posted shortly on the [NCATS CTSA](#)
Program Funding webpage shortly.

Questions? Contact Erica Rosemond.

**LIMITED COMPETITION: ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPLEMENTS TO ENHANCE NETWORK CAPACITY: COLLABORATIVE OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE CTSA PROGRAM: PA-16-328**

The purpose of this administrative supplement is to enhance network capacity in the CTSA Program through implementing, assessing, and/or disseminating discoveries in methods, approaches, education, and training in clinical and translational science. Funds will allow investigators from two or more different CTSA Program hubs to form collaborations within the CTSA Program consortium and/or with external partners to implement, assess, and/or disseminate discoveries across the network. These activities must be within the scope of the approved aims of the parent award and provide significant advances across the translational science spectrum.

Descriptions of projects funded to date under this opportunity can be found on the NCATS website here. The next receipt date for applications is March 1, 2017.

Questions? Contact Erica Rosemond.

**CTSA PROGRAM MEETING**

**REGISTRATION DEADLINE**

Register by April 10th, 2017!

Questions? Contact Amit Chaudhari.

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### Upcoming Events

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<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>CTSA Program Steering Committee Webinar</strong></td>
<td>3/13, 5/8, 6/12... /2017 Second Monday of the month; 2:30 – 4 p.m. ET</td>
<td>Webinar</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>CTSA Program PI Webinar</strong></td>
<td>3/22, 5/24, 6/28... /2017 Fourth Wednesday of the month; 2 – 3 p.m. ET</td>
<td>Webinar</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>CLOSED: CTSA Program Steering Committee In-Person Meeting and Dinner</strong></td>
<td>4/17/2017 Noon – 9:00 p.m. ET</td>
<td>Omni Shoreham Hotel, Wash., D.C.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Spring 2017 CTSA Program Meeting</strong></td>
<td>4/18/2017 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. ET</td>
<td>Omni Shoreham Hotel, Wash., D.C.</td>
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<td><strong>Association for Clinical and Translational Science (ACTS) Annual Meeting</strong></td>
<td>4/19 – 21/2017</td>
<td>Washington Marriott Wardman Park, Wash., D.C.</td>
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