PATHFINDER AWARD WEBINAR
April 22, 2015

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Pathfinder Award

• Up to $50K for one year

• Tests solutions to roadblocks that slow the pace of translation

• Views translation as an operational and scientific problem
Translation

• Moves knowledge along a research continuum to improve human health

• Four translational phases
  – T1: preclinical and animal studies, early-stage human trials, proof-of-concept studies (*translation to humans*)
  – T2: later-phase clinical trials (*translation to patients*)
  – T3: health services research, implementation research, studies in real-world settings (*translation to practice*)
  – T4: interventions that improve population health; social determinants of health (*translation to populations*)
Eligible Projects

• **Operational improvements or innovations**
  - Research networking software
  - User-friendly forms (e.g., IRB, informed consent)
  - New, Web-based courses for CTSI
  - Data management for the research community
  - Recruitment tools
  - New approaches to services

• **Novel methods or technologies**
  - Infrastructure that enhances the *conduct* of research
  - Informatics, phenotyping, novel study design
• Proposals should **NOT**
  – Duplicate existing core infrastructure on CTSI campuses
  – Simply extend an existing research project to propose a solution that is not generalizable or scalable
• Eligibility
  – Faculty in any series at CTSI partners (CSMC, CDU, UCLA-Westwood, LABiomed) or affiliated institutions (Greater Los Angeles VA, Olive View, Santa Monica Hospital, RAND)
  – Community partners, postdocs may participate on teams

• Submission deadline is May 15 at 5 p.m.
  – Go to http://www.ctsi.ucla.edu/funding/pages/fund to view RFA
Application

• Specific aims and research strategy – 3 pages
• **Timeline, milestones and metrics** – 1 page
• Budget and budget justification
• **Biosketches for PI or multi PI and key personnel**
• Letters of Support
Review

• NIH review criteria, scoring, and policies apply

• **Additional local criteria**
  
  – Does the proposal address a *significant roadblock* to translation?
  
  – Is the proposed solution generalizable to the national network of 62 CTSA institutions?
  
  – Is the team multidisciplinary?
  
  – Does the project involve community?
  
  – Is the project feasible in the time and budget allowed?
  
  – Does the proposal include a dissemination plan?
  
  – If successful, is the project likely to accelerate translation?
CTSI Priorities

• Community engagement
• Multidisciplinary team science
• Accelerate the pace of translation

Proposals that address one or more of these areas will receive highest priority

But -- it is not expected that a proposal will address all three areas
• Awardees will be asked to
  – Receive a brief consultation in the conduct of community-engaged research
  – Participate in the Team Science Initiative, a short training with follow-up survey
Key Dates and Contacts

• Key dates
  – April 15 – RFA released
  – May 15 – Submission deadline
  – July 1 – Earliest start date

• Contacts
  – Denise Gellene, dgellene@mednet.ucla.edu (for RFA-related questions)
  – Maryam Ariannejad, mariannejad@mednet.ucla.edu (for technical questions related to submission)
Questions?