The CTSI Integrating Special Populations Program increases the quantity and quality of research in children, older adults, and populations affected by health disparities at the UCLA CTSI partner institutions: UCLA Westwood, LA BioMed at Harbor-UCLA, Cedars-Sinai, and Charles R. Drew University.

Eligibility: Postdoctoral researchers and faculty at any level doing research relevant to special populations (i.e., children, older adults, health disparities) are encouraged to utilize the following free ISP consultation services:

**Internal Pre-Submission Grant Reviews**
Approximately 4-6 weeks before submission deadlines, our experienced faculty offer:
- independent review of PCORI, NIH U01, K- or R-level grant proposals
- in-person feedback in a mock study section
- written and oral critiques plus suggestions for improving the grant

**Career Consultations**
An interdisciplinary team of senior faculty members provide one-time, or ongoing career advice. Interested faculty submit a CV and responses to key questions about their career trajectories. Discussion items can include:
- potential sources of funding
- collaboration opportunities
- suggestions for research content direction
- support with promotion
- career transitions
- strategies for achieving academic success

Consultations are especially useful to faculty at a career crossroads, e.g., near the end of a funding cycle, deciding between different employment opportunities.

**Project-Specific Consultations**
Senior faculty provide concrete, one-time project-specific advice to:
- conceptualize projects
- identify key collaborations
- identify potential grant sources
- problem-solve
- get advice on tasks such as grant-writing, IRB submissions, hiring staff, and study recruitment
- strategies for achieving academic success
- conceptualize projects
- identify key collaborations
- identify potential grant sources
- problem-solve

If interested, or know a mentee who may benefit, please contact:
Nathalie Vizueta
CTSI Special Populations Program Manager
nvizueta@mednet.ucla.edu • (310) 794-2744

Special Populations Consultation Service Task Force leaders:

- Catherine Sarkisian (UCLA Geriatrics) csarkisian@mednet.ucla.edu
- Kimberly Gregory (Cedars-Sinai) kimberly.gregory@cshs.org
- David Martins (Charles R. Drew University) davidmartins@cdrewu.edu
- Katherine Ward (Lundquist/Harbor-UCLA) kateward@ucla.edu
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- Teryl Nuckols (Cedars-Sinai) teryl.nuckols@cshs.org
- Roberto Vargas (Charles R. Drew University) robertovargas@cdrewu.edu
- Lynne Smith (Lundquist/Harbor-UCLA) smith@lundquist.org

Recipients of CTSI services will receive a brief online survey for our annual NIH progress report obligations.

Please cite NIH/NCATS/UCLA CTSI Grant UL1TR001881 in CTSI-supported publications.
The UCLA Clinical and Translational Science Institute (CTSI) supports a wide range of research initiatives and educational programs. Below are brief descriptions of some key programs and their contacts:

**Biostatistics, Epidemiology and Research Design** provides biostatistical and data management support, grant preparation, education and bioinformatics/computational biology services to CTSI research teams. Contact: domstat@mednet.ucla.edu

**Community Engagement and Research Program** develops, implements, and refines models of community engagement and facilitates research collaborations with community partners. Contact: Savanna Carson, scarson@mednet.ucla.edu

**Informatics Program** provides databases, tools, resources and infrastructure for the acquisition, storage and analysis of data. Contact: Marianne Zachariah, mzachariah@mednet.ucla.edu

**Integrating Special Populations** focuses on catalyzing and strengthening research in three special groups: children, older adults, and groups affected by health disparities. Contact: Nathalie Vizueta, nvizueta@mednet.ucla.edu

**Network Resources** consists of two units: 1) The Clinical Research Acceleration Unit (CRAU) interacts with the CTSA Network Trial Innovation Centers (TICs) to ensure rapid study start-up of clinical trials and assist investigators with high priority studies; 2) The Recruitment Unit has been established to interact with Research Innovation Centers (RICs) to ensure rapid subject recruitment to clinical trials. CRAU contact: Hazel Xavier, hxavier@mednet.ucla.edu, Recruitment Unit contact: Marianne Zachariah, mzachariah@mednet.ucla.edu

**Participant and Clinical Interactions** provides scientific review and data and safety oversight. Contact: Amanda Gonzales, amgonzales@mednet.ucla.edu (UCLA), Laurice Pitts, orwildapitts@cdrewu.edu (Charles Drew), Debby Peterson, debby.peterson@cshs.org (Cedars-Sina). Pilot, Translational and Clinical Studies Program provides seed funding for collaborative research, team-building activities and development of novel technologies and approaches. Contact: Deborah Herman, dkherman@mednet.ucla.edu

**Population Health** equips health agency personnel with skills to introduce and sustain critical translational science methods. Contact: Moira Inkelas, minkelas@mednet.ucla.edu

**Precision Health** mobilizes and integrates genomic data with clinical data for translational research that involves genetics, genomics, patient phenotypes, and biomaterials. Contact: Clara Lajonchere, clajonchere@mednet.ucla.edu

**Regulatory Knowledge and Support** ensures that our research is in full regulatory compliance and meets the highest quality assurance standards. Contact: Terra Hughes, thughes@mednet.ucla.edu

**Team Science** develops new theoretical and evidence-based tools to improve, assess, and evaluate the capacity of interdisciplinary and translational science teams to effectively combine team members’ diverse expertise. Contact: Deborah Herman, dkherman@mednet.ucla.edu

**Workforce Development Program** houses most of our education and training activities, including KL2 and TL1 awards for mentored research. Contact: Lisa Chan, lchan@mednet.ucla.edu

For more information, visit [www.ctsi.ucla.edu](http://www.ctsi.ucla.edu)

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