

CTSI Coordinator Connect

A product of the Clinical and Translational Science Institute (CTSI) at the University of Pittsburgh



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RESEARCH RESOURCES | Introducing Two New Pitt Research Concierge Program Resources

The Proposal Repository & Learning Lab Resources

The Pitt Research Concierge Program is pleased to announce that the **Proposal Repository** is now available to Pitt faculty. The Repository contains a collection of successful grant proposals from major funding agencies, including the National Institutes of Health (NIH), the National Science Foundation (NSF), other federal agencies, and private foundations.

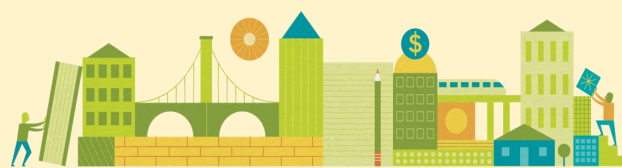
Faculty can browse successful submissions from across the University, spanning different research areas and funding levels, to observe the structure, tone, and strategies that result in awarded grant applications. The Repository's contents are easily searchable by funding agency, grant type, school, or department. Access to the proposals in the Repository is exclusive to Pitt faculty, with sensitive information and budget details redacted. Additional proposals will be added regularly.

Start exploring the [Repository](#) today.

The Pitt Research Concierge Program's newly launched **Learning Lab Resources** webpage provides faculty, staff, and students with an easy-to-use search tool to discover available resources across the University to support every stage of the sponsored programs lifecycle.

The Learning Lab Resource's search function is designed to quickly guide researchers to the resources, offices, and services available at Pitt.

Begin your search by visiting [Learning Lab Resources](#).



The Virginia Kaufman Pain Research Challenge

What is your solution to ease the burden of pain? Pain is a major public health problem, and tackling it involves collaboration and creativity. [The Virginia Kaufman Pain Research Challenge](#) is a funding program to move innovative solutions for pain one step closer to impacting the lives of our community.

The program welcomes applications from diverse teams that address either physical or mental aspects of pain. This can include the dynamics of pain, causes and alleviation of pain, and/or treatments to prevent or mitigate pain.

The Pain Research Challenge is sponsored by the Virginia Kaufman Endowment Fund, named after the prominent Pittsburgh advertising executive's generous donation to the University of Pittsburgh. It is administered by the [Clinical & Translational Science Institute \(CTSI\) Innovation](#).

Addressing Violence and Trauma: PCORI Funding Announcement

The Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI) intends to issue a topical PCORI Funding Announcement (PFA) on April 1, 2025, seeking to fund high-quality, patient-centered comparative clinical effectiveness research (CER) projects that focus on addressing violence and trauma.

This [pre-announcement](#) provides potential applicants additional time to identify collaborators; obtain patient and stakeholder input on potential studies; and develop responsive, high-quality proposals. An applicant [Town Hall](#) will be held on April 9th.



CTSI UPDATES

CTSI CTSI's Responsible Conduct of Research Spring 2025 Series Underway

The [CTSI Responsible Conduct of Research \(RCR\) Center](#) serves as a resource for researchers at the University of Pittsburgh and UPMC, with the objective of providing education so researchers learn to effectively recognize issues and avoid research misconduct while informing them of the resources that are available to support research. Our spring series has begun, and includes topics like managing conflicts of interest, including underrepresented populations in research, planning a successful NIH grant application, and recruiting in schools. Our sessions are free and held virtually.

Getting it Right: Human Centered Design (HCD) Ethics and Regulatory Compliance with Chelsea Proulx, MPH, and Will Hierholzer, BA

In this session, the CTSI Human-Centered Design (HCD) team will present on ethical considerations for designing and facilitating inclusive human-centered design sessions with research participants and/or community partners. They will also discuss tips for putting together effective IRB submissions for studies that use HCD methods and activities. Members of the CTSI Research Facilitator team will be on hand to help answer questions related to regulatory submissions for studies using HCD. Register for the session (and other upcoming HCD Brown Bag Lunch sessions) at this [link](#).

Save the Date! Implementapalooza Coming May 6, 2025

All Pitt/UPMC researchers, clinicians, and students with an interest in implementation science are invited to attend Implementapalooza, an in-person skill-building workshop about Dissemination and Implementation Science research and practice. Our keynote speaker will be Joie Acosta, PhD, senior behavioral scientist at RAND and a community and cultural psychologist. Dr. Acosta, who specializes in implementation research and evaluation of health promotion, prevention, and public health projects, will be speaking about community engagement in implementation research.

Tentative Agenda:

11:30-12 - Lunch buffet open at the University Club, Ballroom B

12-1 - Keynote

1-1:30 - Networking, tabling with D&I Resources

1:30-4 - Concurrent tracks: A) Implementation Science 101 B) Qualitative coding with CFIR 2.0, the updated Consolidated Framework for Implementation Research, with guest lecturer Caitlin Reardon, MPH

Registration link coming soon! Please e-mail lisa.lederer@pitt.edu with questions or to make sure you receive the link

REGULATORY NOTES

Pitt's Office for Human Research Protection (HRPO) Updates Guidance Regarding Exempt Studies

HRPO recently issued new guidance for the submission of modifications to exempt research that can be found [here](#). It can also be accessed on the A-Z Guidance and Forms page of the HRPO [website](#). Approval letters for Exempt Research are titled "EXEMPT DETERMINATION." If your study is exempt, it will also be indicated on the study homepage in PittPRO under "Review Type."

UPCOMING EVENTS

Wednesday, February 26 | noon - 1 p.m.

[The Nuts and Bolts of Research Participant Recruitment](#)

Presented by the University of Pittsburgh Human Research Protection Office, Office of Research Protections

Thursday, February 27 | noon to 1:00 p.m.

[Pitt +Me: Using the Pitt+Me Research Registry](#)

Presented by the CTSI Responsible Conduct of Research Center
Virtual Event

Monday, March 17 | 10 a.m. to 11:30 p.m.

[Graphic Design in Canva](#)

Presented by the University of Pittsburgh Health Sciences Library System
Virtual Event

[Leveraging Artificial Intelligence to Summarize Scientific](#)

[Abstracts in Lay Language for Increasing Research](#)

[Accessibility and Transparency](#)

Presented by the Trial Innovation Network
Recorded Webinar

[The Informed Consent Process with Adults With Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities \(IDD\)](#)

Presented by the Trial Innovation Network
Recorded Webinar

DEAR CTSI,

Question:

How do I connect with CTSI services, and what services are offered?

Answer:

CTSI offers a broad array of services and educational opportunities to the research community, including but not limited to:

- Our [Research Facilitator Team](#) is available to provide recruitment and regulatory consultation, as well as to answer any other research related questions
- Our [Community PARTners Core](#) is here to help researchers engage community voices and promote inclusivity and health equity in research
- Our [Responsible Conduct of Research](#) series serves as a resource for researchers at the University of Pittsburgh and UPMC, with the objective of providing education so researchers learn to effectively recognize issues and avoid research misconduct while informing them of the resources that are available to support research
- [Our Biostatistics, Epidemiology, and Research Design](#) group provides statistical support for research projects
- [Pilot funding opportunities](#) are offered throughout the year

To connect with us, complete a brief [REDCap survey](#) in our electronic tracking system, or stop by Coordinator Connect office hours on Teams the first Tuesday of every month at 1 p.m. and CTSI facilitators will provide advice and guidance.

Use this link to join our office hours: [Join the meeting now](#). You can pre-register on our [events page](#) or simply stop by.

Questions for us?

We'd love to hear from you: ctsi@pitt.edu

Pitt+Me questions: ASKPPM@pitt.edu

Pitt CTSI
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