- Call for Proposals on Comparative Effectiveness Research -

The UC Davis Center for Healthcare Policy and Research (CHPR) and the Clinical and Translational Science Center (CTSC) Pilot and Collaborative Studies Program requests submission of proposals in response to a call for pilot projects to be conducted during the 2010 academic year. These awards are intended to support highly meritorious projects that focus on comparative effectiveness. Comparative effectiveness research is the conduct and synthesis of systematic research comparing different interventions and strategies to prevent, diagnose, treat, and monitor health conditions. The purpose of this research is to provide information about which interventions are most effective. Particular areas of interest include, but are not limited to, evaluations of treatments, diagnostic tests, clinical decision rules, or quality improvement strategies. Methods may include systematic reviews, retrospective cohort studies, or pilots for clinical trials.

Funds will be available for up to $25,000 in total costs beginning March 1, 2010. Proposals in the $15-20,000 range will be favorably reviewed and allow funding for a greater number of investigators. Support may be requested for salary (technical support), supplies, and other research-related expenses; funds may not be used to purchase equipment or for travel expenses. All proposals are required to include a plan describing how the proposed project will lead to a proposal for extramural funding. Submissions that include at least one trainee at the pre-doctoral or post-doctoral/clinical fellow level are preferred. The role of the trainee in the project must be clearly defined. An important criteria in the review of the applications is the use of CTSC funds to purchase equipment or for travel expenses. All proposals are required to include a plan describing how the proposed project will lead to a proposal for extramural funding. Submissions that include at least one trainee at the pre-doctoral or post-doctoral/clinical fellow level are preferred. The role of the trainee in the project must be clearly defined. An important criteria in the review of the applications is the use of CTSC funds to purchase equipment or for travel expenses.

Purpose: The UC Davis CTSC provides an academic home for clinical and translational research and is focused on speeding improvements in human health by reducing barriers in health-relevant research. The UC Davis CHPR seeks to facilitate research, promote education, and inform policy about health and healthcare. The goal of the CHPR/CTSC Call for Proposals is to enhance and augment areas crucial to comparative effectiveness research by providing support for novel research projects, the development of new teams and partnerships, and high risk/high impact research that includes the mentoring of trainees. This call also fosters new multidisciplinary collaborations that will support training of new comparative effectiveness investigators.

Eligibility: All full-time members of the UC Davis faculty (includes adjunct or research series).

Application Procedure: Proposals are requested using the 5-page form that can be downloaded from the CTSC website (http://www.uclmc.ucdavis.edu/ctsc/). The submission must include a current format NIH biographical sketch for each participating investigator including pre-doctoral or post-doctoral (Ph.D. or clinical fellow) trainees. Deadline date for receipt is February 25, 2010 at 5 pm.

Submitted proposals must use the following format and adhere to the submission form:
• Specific Aims and Hypotheses
• Background and Significance
• Experimental Plan
• Rationale for Requested Funding and Planned Extramural Submission(s)
• Specific Role of Trainees(s) and Plans for Mentoring
• If prior funding from the CTSC how this application represents a new or different research direction

Additional Requirements: The names of all investigators funded through this call will be posted on the CTSC and CHPR websites. In addition, all investigators must participate in the CHPR/CTSC Comparative Effectiveness Conference to be held June 18th, 2010, present their project findings at a CHPR seminar, participate in the annual CTSC retreat, and acknowledge the CHPR and the CTSC base-operating grant in any abstracts or publications resulting from supported studies.

Application receipt deadline: February 25, 2010
Earliest funding start date: March 1, 2010

Each P.I. may submit one proposal only. Please send a pdf version of the application on the deadline
date to: Michael Gillis michael.gillis@ucdmc.ucdavis.edu
For questions, please contact:
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