

Cultivating Investigators and Proposals



Russ Waitman, facilitator
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Use of PCORnet and GPC led by GPC Investigators

- Clearly, we have an opportunity and our observation is people should aim bigger (multiple CRN if not national)
- In the past we did 6 pilots
- Open discussion of options
- Didn't see the goal from most sites accomplished (lead one proposal) but have at several sites.
- My follow up will be who else can do linked claims (Florida likely)

Team's thoughts/discussion

- Rick and Kirk: how do we go from idea to project better? Do we need workshops to educate teams on how to expand on their idea into a proposal. There's a bit of a tension that people may feel they need to have the money thought through before they engage
 - Jim: also says junior people may be scared off. Do we create a more general interest form to find like minded investigators at other sites? Then have a facilitated discussion along with someone from a GPC site to inform regarding PCORnet capabilities
 - Betsy: crosses over with Front Porch and what PCORnet is good at. But we need to be transparent about cost. Big strengths are we can engage patients and have the EHR data. Echoes the goal to engaging junior investigators. Going from K to then R01 that later lands the funding. Jim: also applies to senior like his ENT example
 - Looked at ROA and it doesn't really support just a brainstorming zoom call where we can also loop in patients and health systems or domain experts (the 'sidewalk' to the front porch or national front door)
 - Betsy: We could seed this with the maternal mortality and IDD new priority areas. Host or organize a call and invite speakers.
 - Molly as a site has a weekly call but she doesn't actually bring in potential investigators to that call; Lindsay sets up an individual call with the interested investigator for her and Philip Reeder (similar to what we do at Mizzou); Rachel: Utah now has a data model concierge posted position to help steer people (as part of their CTSA brings different parts of team together)



- Connect/distribute industry front porch requests via ROA?

Thoughts discussion

- Jim: time commitment is limited as a site PI and also schedule meetings with faculty and barriers for getting approvals. (Russ: what's building on your CTSA/CTR)
- Scheduling? Standing time? Or fit into existing calls? Lindsay: their investigators are used to IRB office hours. But if clinicians bring some ideas a custom time might be needed.
 - Brad: set some specific time slots but have flexibility for timing
 - Betsy: treat it like a project and schedule it out and key questions. The "holding a time on governance calls doesn't really happen"
- Lindsay: the funds we get for reuse/query fees how are other sites using them? For her, she can't necessarily apply the funds back on the person all the time depending on the contract. Is there boilerplate funding for say NextD so the funds can be used to cultivate new projects. F/U Deandra/Xiaofan

Thoughts discussion

- Molly: We've talked about pilot studies but what about ancillary studies?
 - Help junior investigators know about large projects and how they can serve as a basis for smaller ancillary studies? Or, is the complexity and barrier too high?
 - Betsy: when it's a project led by an investigator at one of our sites so there is more control and lower barrier ideally, we could. (Note there was a call for PREVENTABLE ancillary studies,
 - Rachel: but no guarantee you get to do your idea on the big national ones; some concern the ancillaries get led by the CC? Should be pretty best practice for PREVENTABLE so as GPC would be good to have a process
Note for GPC Betsy's breast cancer group had a nice publication and project development process to stimulate authorship by multiple teams.
 - How we and the national CC provide a greater view of the opportunity for those "outside the core club" can see what could be done for inclusivity

Thoughts discussion

- Ryan: his challenge is bandwidth to write up proposal and do it and acting as liaison to educate others. Also fulfilling more requests of CDM help.
- Mei/Betsy: could people build a diversity equity supplemental off her current work? Mei would need to know more about what's possible.
- Russ: example of sleep funding (Diego Mazotti). Rachel: Utah also had two investigators trying to do the same thing and happy to explore but had limitations of the data to be shovel ready. Do a low bar workgroup

Thank you.



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