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UMCCTS Newsletter, August 2020

UMass Center for Clinical and Translational Science

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August 2020 Newsletter

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COVID-19

UMASS CAPCaT TEAM LEADING EFFORT FOR COVID-19 TEST DEVELOPMENT AND DISTRIBUTION: The NIH is urgently soliciting proposals and can provide up to $500M across multiple projects to rapidly produce innovative SARS-CoV-2 diagnostic tests that will assist the public's safe return to normal activities. Rapid Acceleration of Diagnostics (RADx) is a fast-track technology development program that will support novel solutions that build the U.S. capacity for testing up to 100-fold above what is achievable with standard approaches.

RADx is structured to deliver innovative testing strategies to the public as soon as late summer 2020 and is an accelerated and comprehensive multi-pronged effort by NIH to make SARS-CoV-2 testing readily available to every American.

The application portal is now live www.poctrn.org/radx .
For more information: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ofAldSGoZOg

UMMS UPDATE regarding human subjects research during the COVID-19 pandemic can be found here: https://umassmed.edu/ccts/covid-19/. This website is updated frequently.

NIH UPDATE: For up-to-date NIH COVID-19 information, including informational videos, proposal submission and award management resources, human subjects and clinical trials guidance, animal welfare, frequently asked questions regarding flexibilities for grantees, and funding opportunities, click here: https://www.nih.gov/health-information/coronavirus

CLINICAL TRIALS DATABASE: To search for active Covid-19 clinical trials at UMMS, please visit https://www.conqueringdiseases.org/ . Conquering Diseases is an easy to use web-based search tool to find, share and save clinical studies relevant to patients. It also provides educational resources to help patients and families learn about and find clinical studies. It provides a patient-friendly and direct way to learn about clinical studies and a secure environment to share clinical study opportunities and communicate with study staff for screening and enrollment into clinical studies.

THE NATIONAL COVID COHORT COLLABORATIVE (N3C): The National Center for Data to Health (CD2H) and NCATS are creating a centralized, secure portal for hosting row-level COVID-19 clinical data – the National COVID Cohort Collaborative (N3C). This initiative is a partnership between the CTSA program, several HHS agencies, and the distributed clinical data networks PCORnet, OHDSI, ACT/i2b2, and TriNetX. We believe the N3C portal will enable the rapid development of analytics that clinical centers and physicians need now. To learn more, visit https://covid.cd2h.org/N3C

EVENTS

MALSI+ 2020: August 20, 2020, 10AM-3PM: Don't miss a great opportunity to learn from, and connect with, scientific innovators, entrepreneurs, business leaders, and investors whose groundbreaking work across the globe is addressing Life Science innovation. Expand your understanding and international network by joining thought-provoking conversations on a variety of timely topics. The virtual format features curated small group and 1:1 networking, as well as a limited number of keynote and panel presentations. For more information and to register visit: https://mttc.org/malsi-2020/

Panel Discussion- Demystifying Pathways to Innovation Partnerships with Health Systems, Tuesday, August 25 • 10am-Noon ET: How do you get hospital systems to try, adopt, and embrace your product? That's the million-dollar question for life sciences innovators, and you'll get answers from hospital stakeholders and decision-makers in this free forum. UMass is honored to partner with BARDA, the VA, and Texas Medical Center's

renowned and influential Innovation Institute for this event, which is OPEN TO ALL innovators seeking that elusive "foot in the door."
For more details and to register visit: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/demystifying-pathways-to-innovation-partnerships-with-health-systems-tickets-111833376640?aff=M2D2

2020 M2D2 $200K Challenge Pitch-Off and Award Celebration: M2D2 is thrilled to announce that we have officially rescheduled the 2020 M2D2 $200K Challenge Pitch-Off and Award Celebration—now virtual and free of charge. Mark your calendars:

Finalist Pitch-Off: Thursday, September 17 at 5pm ET
Awards Celebration: Thursday, October 1 at 5 pm ET

Register here to attend: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2020-m2d2-200k-challenge-pitch-off-awards-celebration-tickets-78510953375

FUNDING

CCTS SPARK PROGRAM: Rolling application deadline. This program's priorities are to support studies that impact clinical care and research methodologies, support students/trainees, and provide access to funds to generate pilot and preliminary data for external grant submissions. For more information, click on this link: https://www.umassmed.edu/ccts/funding/spark-program/

CCTS SMALL CONFERENCE GRANTS: Rolling application deadline. This funding facilitates the development of faculty-to-faculty networks within the University system. Click on this link for more information: https://umassmed.edu/ccts/funding/small-conference-grants/
FUNDING OPPORTUNITY: postdoctoral fellowships to prepare the next generation of scientists to conduct implementation research that addresses critical cancer prevention and control care delivery issues.

PRACCTIS program postdoctoral fellowship: Funding opportunity! Deadline extended for postdoctoral fellows. The National Cancer Institute-funded T32 PRACCTIS program (Prevention and Control of Cancer: Training for Change in Individuals and Systems) is now accepting applications for postdoctoral trainees to start August 2020 or later. PRACCTIS is an NCI-funded training program designed to prepare the next generation of scientists to conduct implementation research that addresses critical cancer prevention and control care delivery issues across the cancer continuum, including primary prevention, cancer screening, diagnosis, treatment and survivorship.

- Trainees must be interested in pursuing a career focused on cancer prevention and control implementation research. All applicants must pursue independent research in this area.
- Eligible trainees will have with doctoral degrees (MD, DO, Ph.D., Sc.D., etc.) and a primary mentor affiliated with one of the partnering institutions. External candidates will be matched with a mentor during the interview process.
- Full applications are due by August 31, 2020.

For more information, contact barbara.estabrook@umassmed.edu and see www.umassmed.edu/pracctis

Multimorbidity Funding Opportunity Announcements Technical Assistance Webinar, Tuesday, September 1, 12:30-2:00PM EDT: This pre-application technical assistance webinar will provide an overview of the two NIH multimorbidity funding opportunity announcements (FOAs) listed below. These FOAs are soliciting innovative research to better understand, measure, and intervene on multimorbidity, or multiple chronic conditions.

- PAR-20-179: Advancing Research To Develop Improved Measures and Methods for Understanding Multimorbidity (R01 Clinical Trial Optional)
- PAR-20-180: Identifying Innovative Mechanisms or Interventions That Target Multimorbidity and Its Consequences (R01 Clinical Trial Optional)

NIH Funding Opportunity: Automatic detection and tracing of SARS-CoV-2 (U01): This RFA will support the early stage development of innovative platforms that integrate biosensing with touchscreen or other digital devices to achieve detection & tracing of SARS-CoV-2 in real-time; deadline September 15, 2020

Please see the solicitation for complete information: https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-OD-20-014.html

EDUCATION

GREATER WORCESTER COVID-19 COMMUNITY HEALTH SURVEY: UMass Medical School, in collaboration with the City of Worcester and the Central Massachusetts Regional Public Health Alliance is conducting the Great Worcester COVID-19 Community Health Survey. The online survey, which takes about **10 minutes to complete**, asks respondents about changes in their lives due to COVID since March 10, including their health, finances, activities outside the home, access to medical care, employment, housing and food security. The names of the street a respondent lives on and the closest cross street will be vital for understanding circumstances in specific neighborhoods. Providing contact information is optional for respondents who want to receive survey results, and who are willing to be contacted about the survey. The survey also provides a list of local resources for households experiencing distress due to COVID-19. **The survey is available in English, Spanish, Portuguese, Vietnamese, Albanian and Russian**. To participate, please click here.

UMASS PATIENT SURVEY: WHAT'S YOUR TAKE ON THE USE OF TECHNOLOGY IN HEALTH CARE? We want your advice on which new medical technologies should be developed to help you and your healthcare provider. We value your opinion about which medical tests you believe would be most helpful. Your input is invaluable for guiding support toward products that will do the most good.

Researchers at the University of Massachusetts focused on heart, lung, blood, and sleep disorders (CAPCaT) have created a brief survey that will help inform how we support promising new technologies. This survey has 21 questions and should take about 10 minutes to complete. Participation is entirely voluntary, and you can stop at any time. Your survey

responses will be anonymous. Thank you in advance for providing critical feedback to CAPCaT.

To participate click here: https://arcsapps.umassmed.edu/redcap/surveys/?s=AK3ET3RTLY

If you have any questions, please contact Nate Hafer at nathaniel.hafer@umassmed.edu.

Two free Community Health Maps webinars this month: Community Health Maps works to enable community health advocates to meet local health mapping needs through training on low cost resources for spatial data collection, mapping, and sharing.
The first webinar (August 14, 2:00-3:00pm EDT) will provide an introduction to mapping COVID-19 data using the free and open source QGIS desktop software. (Details and registration here)

The second webinar (August 21, 2:00-3:00pm EDT) will introduce a new workflow for mobile data collection using the app Input. (Details and registration here)

No prior experience using QGIS or other GIS software is required. Both webinars will be recorded. If you are not able to attend the live events, please register to receive notification about the recordings.

Feel free to contact Marisa Conte (meese@umich.edu) or Tyler Nix (tnix@umich.edu) with any questions.

DID YOU KNOW?

HRPP QA/QI: The Human Research Protection Program (HRPP) Quality Assurance/Quality Improvement (QA/QI) Program is a component of the UMass Center for Clinical and Translational Science. The program is independent of the IRB and helps study teams and investigators by conducting routine post-approval monitoring of on-going research to evaluate adherence with institutional requirements and federal regulations. If there are review findings, the QA/QI manager shares those findings with investigators and study teams, and provides direct education on the findings, including how to avoid making similar errors in the future. In order to support improvement at an institutional level, the QA/QI manager shares aggregated data from reviews with the HRPP leadership and the Research Community to identify trends and target areas for education. The program also makes self-evaluation tools available to investigators and study teams seeking to perform their own assessments. To learn more about HRPP QA/QI HRP-142, visit: https://www.umassmed.edu/globalassets/ccts/ccts-media/irb/updated-sops-2015/hrp-142-hrpp-qa-qi-program-final.pdf.

NATIONAL CENTER FOR DATA TO HEALTH (CD2H): The goal of CD2H is to make data more meaningful, open and accessible. The CD2H supports a vibrant and evolving collaborative informative ecosystem for the CTSA program and beyond. The CD2H harnesses and expands an ecosystem for translational scientists to discover and share their software, data and other research resources within the CTSA program network. The CD2H also creates a social coding environment for translational science institutions, leveraging the

community-driven DREAM challenges as a mechanism to stimulate innovation. To learn more, click here.

SHARE YOUR SUCCESS STORY

Have you had *your research published* that cites the UMass Center for Clinical and Translational Science? Has *your patent been filed* on technology developed using Center funding or resources? Did your pilot project receive external grant funding? Share it with us at ccts@umassmed.edu. Sharing your success demonstrates the importance and effect of the Center for Clinical and Translational Science at UMass.

CITE & SUBMIT

Please cite the NIH CTSA award any time you use The UMMS Center for Clinical and Translational Science resources, services and facilities or received funding through the Center. *"The project described is supported by the National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences, National Institutes of Health, through Grant UL1 TR001453, (or TL1 TR001454, or KL2 TR001455, as appropriate). The content is solely the responsibility of the authors and does not necessarily represent the official views of the NIH."*

Newsletter Submissions: To be included in the CCTS Monthly Newsletter, please send announcements, including a link, to ccts@umassmed.edu. The newsletter is published the first week of each month.

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