

# UMass Center for Clinical and Translational Science Newsletter

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## UMCCTS Newsletter, June 2021

UMass Center for Clinical and Translational Science

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# CENTER FOR CLINICAL & TRANSLATIONAL SCIENCE

UMASS CCTS NEWSLETTER



## IN THE NEWS

### RADX INITIATIVE HIGHLIGHTED DURING CONGRESSIONAL VISIT TO NIH CAMPUS

UMASS MEDICAL SCHOOL PLAYS KEY ROLE IN CLINICAL TRIALS TO SUPPORT DEVELOPMENT OF RAPID COVID-19 TESTS

- BY SUSAN E.W. SPENCER

SEVERAL UNITED STATES SENATORS VISITED THE NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH AT ITS BETHESDA, MARYLAND, CAMPUS ON MAY 17 FOR A TOUR OF ITS VACCINE RESEARCH CENTER AND DISCUSSION OF COVID-19 INITIATIVES, INCLUDING THE NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH RAPID ACCELERATION OF DIAGNOSTICS INITIATIVE, OR RADX. UMass MEDICAL SCHOOL RESEARCHERS CONTINUE TO PLAY A KEY ROLE IN CLINICAL TRIALS TO SUPPORT DEVELOPMENT OF CONVENIENT, AFFORDABLE AND RAPID COVID-19 TESTING THROUGH RADX. A TEAM LED BY DAVID MCMANUS, MD, THE RICHARD M. HAIDACK PROFESSOR IN MEDICINE AND CHAIR AND PROFESSOR OF MEDICINE, AND LAURA GIBSON, MD, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF MEDICINE, WHO CO-LEADS THE RADX TECH CLINICAL STUDIES CORE, WAS AWARDED \$123 MILLION IN 2020 TO OVERSEE THE CLINICAL STUDIES COMPONENT OF POINT-OF-CARE AND HOME-BASED DIAGNOSTICS, PART OF RADX TECH, WITH PARTNER INSTITUTIONS ACROSS THE COUNTRY.

[FULL ARTICLE](#)

## WHAT'S NEW?

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## EVENTS

### NCATS INVITES YOU TO: SMALL BUSINESS RESOURCES AND SBIR/STTR FUNDING TO DRIVE COMMERCIALIZATION IN TRANSLATIONAL SCIENCE

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 9TH, 2:30-3:30 PM

Join the National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences (NCATS) in collaboration with University of Massachusetts Medical School on Wednesday, June 9, 2021, for a webinar to learn about the Small Business Innovation Research and Small Business Technology Transfer (SBIR/STTR) programs for researchers and entrepreneurs in translational science.

NCATS offers non-dilutive funding and resources to help small businesses advance and commercialize promising translational biotech and life sciences research technologies. If you are a researcher in these fields and are interested in bringing your innovations to market you may be eligible to apply to the NCATS SBIR and STTR programs.

Register now to join the webinar, Small Business Resources and SBIR/STTR Funding to Drive Commercialization in Translational Science on Wednesday, June 9, 2021, 2:30 – 3:30 p.m. ET

### CENTER FOR ADVANCING POINT OF CARE TECHNOLOGIES

THURSDAY, JUNE 17TH

We are excited to announce our upcoming second annual CAPCaT Showcase and look forward to welcoming you on June 17th. Read all about this year's compelling program, claim your invitation and register here: 2021 CAPCaT Big Company/Little Company Showcase Tickets, Thu, Jun 17, 2021 at 9:00 AM | Eventbrite.

Attendees will hear about nine breakthrough point-of-care innovations and learn about strategic partnership and grant opportunities that are accelerating medical science innovation.





# EVENTS

## PROJECTS IN PROCESS SEMINAR SERIES (PIPSS)

FRIDAYS MARCH 5TH TO JUNE 11TH 2021

We cordially invite you to attend the virtual Projects in Process Seminar Series (PiPSS) taking place on Friday afternoons from 11 AM to 12 PM. The series will feature presentations from our TL1, Millennium, MSCI and KL2 scholars on their various research projects.



Zoom Link:

<https://umassmed.zoom.us/j/98699860149?pwd=MWlyanlueDBBR05MNE90azRIZHVWUT09>

Contact Melissa Corash at [Melissa.BrewerCorash@umassmed.edu](mailto:Melissa.BrewerCorash@umassmed.edu) for further details.

### June PiPSS Schedule

**June 4<sup>th</sup>**  
Chris Hemond- *Smoldering Multiple Sclerosis: the Last Frontier*  
Sarah Davenport- *TBD*

Patricia Cho- *TBD*

**June 11<sup>th</sup>**  
Bunmi Emidio- *TBD*  
Nisha Fahey- *Epidemiology and characteristics of pediatric COVID-19 cases among UMass Memorial Health Care patients*

# FUNDING

## TARGETED PCORI FUNDING ANNOUNCEMENT (TPFA)

LOI DUE JUNE 1ST

This Targeted PCORI Funding Announcement (tPFA) seeks to fund large randomized controlled trials (RCTs) and/or well-designed observational studies comparing multicomponent strategies to improve early detection of, and timely care for, complications up to six weeks postpartum for groups more often underserved or experiencing the greatest disparities in health outcomes, including Black, American Indian/Alaska Native (AI/AN), Hispanic, rural, and low socioeconomic status (SES) populations.

For more Information: [Click Here](#)



# FUNDING



## RADX- UP FUNDING OPPORTUNITES

### VARIOUS DUE DATES

- **NOT-OD-21-097** – (Released March 29, 2021) Notice of Intent to Publish a Research Opportunity Announcement for RADxSM-UP Return to School Diagnostic Testing Approaches (OT2 Clinical Trial Optional)
  - The purpose of this Notice is to alert the community that NIH plans to publish a Research Opportunity (RO) as part of the Rapid Acceleration of Diagnostics for Underserved Populations (RADxSM-UP) initiative to solicit research on COVID-19 diagnostic testing approaches to safely return children and staff to the in-person school setting in underserved and vulnerable communities (NOT-OD-21-065).
  - **Due Date:** Applicants will be invited for the full proposal stage by April 23, 2021 with a receipt date for the full proposal on May 14, 2021.
- **RFA-OD-21-009** – (Released April 13, 2021) Emergency Award: RADx-UP - Social, Ethical, and Behavioral Implications (SEBI) Research on Disparities in COVID-19 Testing among Underserved and Vulnerable Populations (U01 Clinical Trials Optional)
  - This Phase II RADx-UP Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) is designed to expand research to understand and address the social, ethical, and behavioral implications (SEBI) of COVID-19 testing interventions among underserved and vulnerable populations. Desirable studies for Phase II will move beyond descriptive health disparities research to focus on developing interventions and other actionable solutions in collaboration with community partners and stakeholders.
  - **Due Date:** July 7, 2021
- **RFA-OD-21-008** – (Released April 13, 2021) Emergency Awards: Community-engaged COVID-19 Testing Interventions among Underserved and Vulnerable Populations- RADxSM-UP Phase II (U01, Clinical Trial Optional)
  - *This funding opportunity announcement (FOA) uses an emergency U01 mechanism to support Phase II of the Rapid Acceleration of Diagnostics – Underserved Populations (RADxSM-UP) initiative. These two-year Testing Research Projects will (1) expand the scope and reach of RADxSM-UP testing interventions to reduce COVID-19 disparities among underserved and vulnerable populations and (2) address scientific questions on interventions to increase access and uptake of COVID-19 testing given the increasing availability of SARS-CoV-2 vaccines*
  - **Due Date:** July 7, 2021



# FUNDING

## RADX- UP FUNDING OPPORTUNITES

VARIOUS DUE DATES

- ***NOT-OD-21-103 – (Released April 13, 2021) Notice of Special Interest (NOSI): Emergency Competitive Revisions for NIH Grants to Add or Expand Community-engaged COVID-19 Testing Interventions among Underserved and Vulnerable Populations – RADxSM-UP Phase II (Emergency Supplement-Clinical Trial Optional)***
  - ***The National Institutes of Health (NIH) are issuing this NOSI in response to the declared public health emergency issued by the Secretary, HHS, for 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19). This NOSI provides an expedited funding mechanism to support Phase II of the Rapid Acceleration of Diagnostics – Underserved Populations (RADxSM-UP) initiative. These two-year Testing Research Projects will (1) expand the scope and reach of RADxSM-UP testing interventions to reduce COVID-19 disparities among underserved and vulnerable populations and (2) address scientific questions on interventions to increase access and uptake of COVID-19 testing given the increasing availability of SARS-CoV-2 vaccines.***
  - ***Due Date: Applications may be submitted beginning on May 1, 2021 for an Application Due Date of May 24, 2021(5:00 PM local time of the applicant organization). Applications received after May 24, 2021 will not be considered.***



# FUNDING

## RADX- UP FUNDING OPPORTUNITES

### VARIOUS DUE DATES



- **NOT-OD-21-101- (Released April 13, 2021) Notice of Special Interest (NOSI): Administrative Supplements for Rapid Acceleration of Diagnostics-Underserved Populations (RADxSM-UP) Phase I Projects to Address Vaccine Hesitancy and Uptake**
  - ***This Notice of Special Interest (NOSI) seeks to support administrative supplements to Rapid Acceleration of Diagnostics-Underserved Populations (RADxSM-UP) recipients to address the urgent need to expand outreach and education efforts to promote testing and foster vaccine confidence, acceptance, and uptake in underserved and vulnerable communities. These 1-year projects will develop, implement, and evaluate brief interventions at RADxSM-UP testing sites to maximize effective outreach, education, communication, and facilitate the dissemination and uptake of testing and vaccines in underserved and vulnerable communities.***
  - ***Eligibility: Applications are being requested from current RADx-UP recipients from the following Funding Opportunity Announcements and Notices of Special Interest:***
    - ***NOT-OD-20-121- Notice of Special Interest (NOSI): Limited Competition for Emergency Competitive Revisions for Community-Engaged Research on COVID-19 Testing among Underserved and/or Vulnerable Populations***
    - ***NOT-OD-20-120- Notice of Special Interest (NOSI): Emergency Competitive Revisions for Community-Engaged Research on COVID-19 Testing among Underserved and/or Vulnerable Populations***
    - ***NOT-OD-20-119- Notice of Special Interest (NOSI): Emergency Competitive Revisions for Social, Ethical, and Behavioral Implications (SEBI) Research on COVID-19 Testing among Underserved and/or Vulnerable Populations***
  - ***Funds available: Individual requests can be no more than \$300,000 in total costs per year for up to one year. Funds are available for up to 15 awards.***
  - ***Due Date: Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis through May 10 2021 by 5:00 PM local time of the applicant organization.***
- **References:**
  - **<https://www.nih.gov/research-training/medical-research-initiatives/radx>**
  - **<https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/COVID-Related.cfm>**





## TOOLS & APPLICATIONS



RedCap is a user friendly tool for building online surveys and databases which is utilized most often in the field of clinical research.

There is a self-paced REDCap [online training wiki](#) available for REDCap users.


Request a REDCap account by [clicking here](#).

Request REDCap support by [creating a ticket](#) here.



The DL&I Incubator team is pleased to announce the launch of Training Opportunities To Augment Learning (TOTAL), a digital app that allows biomedical trainees to attend career and professional development events held at Boston University and eight Boston-based partner institutions. [Click here](#) to read more.

### 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."*





# EDUCATION

## NCATS ONLINE COURSE IN TRANSLATIONAL SCIENCE

JUNE 14-JULY 30, 2021

**Enhance your translational science skills this summer with a seven-week online course, *MEDI 501: Principles of Preclinical Translational Science* (link is external). This class is open to the public and is being offered by NCATS' Education Branch in partnership with the Foundation for Advanced Education in the Sciences (link is external). Registration for the summer course is open. To register, go to <https://faes.org/courses> (link is external) and locate the course *MEDI 501: Principles of Preclinical Translational Science*.**

## POSTDOCTORAL TRAINING IN CANCER PREVENTION & CONTROL

**The NCI-funded PRACCTIS program (Prevention and Control of Cancer: Training for Change in Individuals and Systems) at UMMS is now accepting applications for postdoctoral scholars to start January 2021 and August 2021. We train independent researchers to address critical prevention and control care delivery issues across the cancer continuum, including primary prevention, screening, diagnosis, treatment and survivorship, with emphasis on promoting change in individuals, providers and systems. Our faculty mentors are leaders in implementation science, health equity and low resource settings, health behavior change, health informatics, systems change and health policy, health communications, population health sciences, and prevention and intervention research. Applicants must plan to pursue an independent research career focused on cancer prevention and control, have earned a doctoral degree (PhD, ScD, MD, DO, etc.), and be a U.S. citizen or permanent resident. For more information contact Barbara Estabrook, [Barbara.estabrook@umassmed.edu](mailto:Barbara.estabrook@umassmed.edu).**

## RESEARCH WITH SEXUAL & GENDER MINORITY POPULATIONS

**Tufts CTSI Clinical Research Network is hosting the "Research with Sexual and Gender Minority Populations" training module which will be led by Tania D. Strout, PhD, RN, MS from Maine Medical Center. Please register at: [https://ilearn.tuftsctsi.org/product?catalog=ST109\\_2019\\_Online](https://ilearn.tuftsctsi.org/product?catalog=ST109_2019_Online)**





# CENTER FOR CLINICAL & TRANSLATIONAL SCIENCE

UMASS CCTS NEWS LETTER



## **SHARE YOUR SUCCESS STORY!**

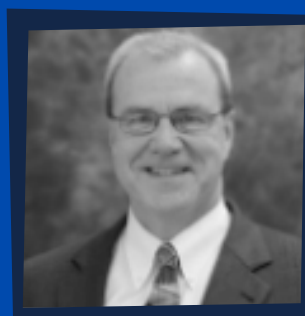
*Have you had your research published that cites the UMass Center for Clinical and Translational Science? Has your patent been filed on technology developed using Center funding or resources? Did your pilot project receive external grant funding? Share it with us at [ccts@umassmed.edu](mailto:ccts@umassmed.edu).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

## **NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS**

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



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