



Medical Education and Research Grant Outcome Report

Name: UW-Institute for Clinical and Translational Research

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Department: Medicine

Program: Targeted

Grant Duration: 01-01-2007 to 6-30-2009 (30 Months)

Expenditures: \$6,777,343 (99%)

Use of Funds (Taxonomy): Type 1 & 2 Translational Research, Clinical Research, Education

Research Keywords: Education, Biomedical Informatics, Clinical Research, Translational Research, Community Engagement

► **Description:** The overarching goal of the Institute for Clinical and Translational Research (ICTR) is to ensure that the research breakthroughs made at the University are tested in efficacy and effectiveness studies and, when proven, disseminated and implemented into clinical practices throughout the state, thereby improving the health of Wisconsin residents. To this end the resulting complex program aims to facilitate the performance of clinical and translational research and develop clinical and translational researchers prepared to design, develop and implement necessary studies. ICTR requested WPP funds to help develop the essential infrastructure necessary to transfer medical discoveries to the community and respond to community health care needs.

► **Contributions/Results:** The initial award provided by MERC, an expression of institutional support for ICTR, provided the impetus and allowed sufficient groundbreaking progress to allow successful application for a \$40.6M Clinical and Translational Science Award from the National Institutes for Health (NIH). This has been vital to the school embracing the enhanced role of public health in its overall mission. It also has helped change the culture at UW, reorienting its research efforts around dissemination and implementation of new health discoveries in the community. The success realized through the ICTR programs has been documented in stringent yearly evaluations of progress provided by an NIH External Advisory Committee.

WPP funds have been used primarily to support projects aimed at forming Community Academic Partnerships (CAP) and developing biomedical informatics methodology essential to the performance of the clinical and translational research. The ICTR-CAP program has transformed the academic research infrastructure to support collaborative, community-oriented research, dedicated to solving problems by translating new and existing knowledge into improved clinical practice/ community health. In 2008 alone, 186 investigators or community partners consulted with an ICTR-CAP-affiliated program. In addition, 423 faculty, staff, students, and community participants benefited from educational offerings organized and provided by ICTR-CAP. This work resulted in 102 grant submissions and 256 published articles. One successful research effort, resulting from interaction with the ICTR-CAP program, documented that, despite the evidence showing the benefits of colorectal screening, less than two-thirds of eligible individuals in Wisconsin were obtaining such testing. Dissemination of these findings to local health systems, however, has led to better screening and consequently more cancer prevention.

In addition, purchase and implementation of software for clinical research management, a new biomedical informatics technology, has improved clinical study performance and allowed close quality oversight of hundreds of ongoing clinical studies.

Wisconsin Partnership Program

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▶ **Met Objectives:** Project complete

▶ **Timeline for Application of Results:** Less than three years.

▶ **New Partnerships or Collaborations:**

Countless new partnerships and collaborations have from ICTR activities and the established groundwork guarantees that the accrual of such relationships will continue in the future. In this regard, ICTR-CAP established functioning research councils in the Northern, Northeastern, Milwaukee, and Southwest regions of Wisconsin. In accord, Councilors have been hired to engage with the communities and research councils. This interaction, outreach meetings, and fact-finding interviews have created a database of over 190 regional researchers and community organizations. In addition, efforts are underway to connect community organizations with research needs to UW researchers with expertise to collaborate in the performance of such research. These interactions have changed the culture of research at UW, orienting it toward translating new discoveries into improvements in health care within the communities.

▶ **Matched Dollars (cash or in-kind):** None

▶ **Dissemination:** ICTR-CAP programs have resulted in 19 academic publications and numerous news articles.

▶ **Additional Funding:** The award provided by MERC led to successful application for a \$40.6M Clinical and Translational Science Award from the NIH. In 2009, the MERC renewed its support of ICTR with a \$10M grant over three years. This is supplemented by NIH and other grant funds.