Translating Knowledge into Health Improvements

ICTR supports research that is translated to practical improvements in community health and health equity.

**Description:** The Institute for Clinical and Translational Research (ICTR) has created an environment that transforms research at UW-Madison and the Marshfield Clinic into a continuum from investigation through discovery to translation into community practice, bridging the most basic research to practical improvements in the health of Wisconsinites.

**Relevance:** The Wisconsin Partnership Program has built a strong partnership with ICTR. With a common goal of improving the health of communities, ICTR supports community-partnered research that translates new and existing knowledge into improvements in clinical practice, community health programs and health policy.

**Results:** During this three-year grant period, ICTR used WPP funds to make community engagement and research a major focus of its activity. For example, WPP funds supported 25 community-engaged research grant pilot awards, totaling nearly $1.9 million. These academic-community partnerships resulted in more than $1 million in new extramural research funding. Examples of successful collaborative initiatives included a pilot project to improve the safety and quality of life in Wisconsin assisted living facilities, and a collaborative team investigation of the effectiveness that pharmacist medication therapy management has in preventing falls among older adults. Through the ICTR community-academic partnership program, UW faculty engaged 225 community partners in their research.

To better understand issues of significant importance to Wisconsin, such as aging, obesity, health equity and medication management, ICTR has participated in the development of several practice-based research networks including the Community-Academic Aging Research Network, the Public Health Practice-Based Research Network and the Pharmacy Practice Enhancement and Action Research Link.

With the substantial support from the Partnership Program, ICTR announced in 2012, renewed National Institutes of Health funding of $41.5 million over five years, one of the largest grants ever awarded to the School of Medicine and Public Health.

PERC awarded a third grant of $10.2 million over three years to ICTR in 2012 to expand its programs, including widespread efforts to disseminate and implement research, ultimately contributing to a direct impact on community health and health equity.

**Pathways for ICTR’s successful community-academic partnerships**

**INSTITUTE FOR CLINICAL AND TRANSLATIONAL RESEARCH**

**Principal Investigator:** Marc Drezner, MD, Medicine, SMPH

**Grant Program:** Targeted Education and Research

**Award:** $10,185,996 over three years