2016 Internal Research Grant Program

We invite all Children’s Staff and Professional staff to submit a letter of intent and proposal for the upcoming 2016 Internal Research Grant Program submission cycle! The Internal Research Grant Program (IRGP) is designed to improve investigator access to intramural support for research projects that are likely to lead to external collaboration, publication and funding.

*NEW IN 2016*

In 2016 there will be two types of grant programs funded. They include the following:

**Small Grant Program** (Awards up to $15,000): Intended to support data collection for pilot research and evaluation of smaller projects.

**Large Grant Program** (1 Award up to $150,000): Intended to support high-impact research or inquiry into issues that affect child or adolescent health. These projects should hold the promise of developing into long-term research and evaluation projects that will attract larger grants such as NIH funding or other large scale funding agencies. Collaboration with other institutions is strongly encouraged.

**Important Deadlines:**

April 8, 2016 Required Letter of Intent
July 1, 2016 Proposal Submission

Application materials are available online at: http://khan.childrensmn.org/departments-and-committees/rsp-forms-and-documents/

Please direct any questions to Angela at angela.plaisance@childrensmn.org or 612-813-6142 or Wendi at wendi.heuermann@childrensmn.org 612-813-6303

CF Research Shows Great Success

Since 2007, Children’s Cystic Fibrosis (CF) research program has generated over 3.5 million dollars in funded CF research studies, registries, and capacity grants. As a program, we have made great strides in creating an environment where clinical care and research can be conducted in unison. Co-location and quality improvement efforts have greatly improved communication and coordination of services among the expanding multi-disciplinary care team; improved patient satisfaction and interest in research participation; and fostered a culture where all care providers have the opportunity to investigate research questions of interest. Strategies that we have implemented to increase efficiency include, weekly research meetings with our investigators, attending inpatient rounds, attending weekly clinic huddles, clinical research staff huddles, and the use of dash boards to track activities and deadlines.

As part of our relationship with the CF Foundation, we are graded annually on the quality, quantity, and efficiency of the CF related research our program participates in through metrics reporting. According to our 2015 metric data, we were consistently listed in the top quartile for most measured activities. Some examples of this success are:

- Ranked 1st out of 82 centers nationally for our timeliness to complete contract and budget negotiations (number of days between receipt of contract and budget templates to full execution)
- Ranked 3rd out of 82 centers nationally for our timeliness to successfully obtain IRB approval (number of days between receipt of regulatory packet to IRB approval)
- Ranked 1st out of 82 centers nationally for our timeliness to enroll patients in clinical trials after site activation (number of days between site activation and patient enrollment)
- Ranked 8th out of 82 centers nationally for the percentage of our CF population newly enrolled in interventional trials overall
Welcome Dr. Michael Finch

We pleased to announce the hiring of Dr. Michael Finch as the head of our Research Design and Analytics Core Team. Dr. Finch comes to us with over 30 years of research and analytics experience, beginning as an instructor and then college professor of Health Services and Research Policy at the University of Minnesota. Dr. Finch has served as a consultant and director of research programs for both state and federal agencies as well as other national organizations.

Dr. Finch is a well published investigator and research scientist and brings to his new role a wealth of knowledge and experience in investigative techniques and research design. Dr. Finch is a graduate of the University of Western Washington where he earned degrees in sociology and anthropology, and the University of Minnesota where he received his PhD in Sociology. Dr. Finch is a recognized expert in the field of health policy, health care financing and economics and has published over 100 peer reviewed manuscripts and three books.

Research Staff News

Linda Hyberger, Program Manager Neonatal Program has taken on the additional responsibilities as Program Manager for genetics research and eating disorders. Gretchen Williams was promoted to Senior Research Coordinator, Alison Overman to Clinical Research Coordinator, and Kristen Frenn to Senior Clinical Research Coordinator.

New Research Staff: Brianna McMichael, CRA I, Genetics, Amy Beadle, Research Assistant, Eating Disorders, Robert Juenemann, CRA I, Eating Disorders, Mercedes Wilhelm, Research Assistant, OTST and PPB Registries, Thua Doan, Research Assistant, Emergency Department.

Pain and Palliative Research Seeks to Expand “No Needless Pain” to Canadian and US Hospitals

Since 2014 Children’s Hospitals and Clinics of Minnesota has initiated a system-wide program to facilitate inpatient needle procedure practice change (Toyota Lean Value Stream) through refinement and implementation of care delivery tools directed at reducing or eliminating needle pain in children: https://www.childrensmn.org/comfortpromise

Expanding this quality improvement project, Children’s seeks to partner with four children’s hospitals in USA or Canada to implement and evaluate a standardized needle pain mediation protocol.

Selected partner sites will participate in phone and in person training to disseminate the best practices to reduce pain with needle procedures. Information about current practices, anticipated barriers to implementation, and local culture will be assessed and tips will be provided on how to effectively work with leadership and clinical staff in different roles in order to encourage active participation in the program.

This project has been made available through generous funding by the Mayday Fund http://www.maydayfund.org

2015 End of Year Research Statistics

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
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<td>Active Research Programs</td>
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<td>Clinical Trials</td>
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<td>Peer Reviewed Publications</td>
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<td>Total Research Sponsored Projects</td>
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Group from Children’s Minnesota
Attends the Pediatrics 2040 conference

In January a large delegation from Children’s attended the Pediatrics 2040: Trends and Innovations for the Next 25 Years conference in Laguna Niguel, CA. This conference, organized by Children’s Hospital of Orange County, focused on bringing together a wide selection of individuals focused on innovation in health care. The attendees included hospital administrators, clinicians, nurses, tech start-ups, high school and college students, researchers and patients and families.

Several Children’s employees presented in the conferences e-poster session, which used a 5 minute, 5 slide presentation format. Teresa Herriage, a PNP from Children’s, presented on her innovative IV line lifter, which reduces potential exposure to organisms due to IV line dragging on the floor in pediatric patients with central lines. Stephanie Gil, an LEP patient and family advocate, presented on her novel medication calendar approach for patient families with limited English proficiency. Kristin Frenn, a clinical research coordinator, presented on an ED program for providing home treatment for ED patients with jaundice. A large group of Children’s leadership attended this conference and participated in workshops and panel discussions on innovation in pediatrics. The conference was a wonderful opportunity for Children’s to learn about the innovative work being done at other pediatric centers across the country, and hopefully bring some of those innovations back to our hospital.

Selected Investigator-Initiated Research Publications – Q4, 2015