

## ABSTRACT: 2013 ELAM Institutional Action Project Poster Symposium

**Project Title: Einstein-Montefiore Center for Comparative Effectiveness Research (CCER)**

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**Collaborators:** A. Blank, Co-Director, Division of Research, Department of Family and Social Medicine

H. Chung, Chief Medical Officer, Montefiore Care Management Company, B. Currie, Assistant Dean for Clinical Research, M. Kim, Director of the Biostatistics, Epidemiology and Research Design Core of the Institute for Clinical and Translational Research, P. Marantz, Associate Dean for Clinical Research Education, P. Mirhaji, Director of Clinical Research Informatics, B. Rabkin, Director, Department of Epidemiology and Population Health Division of Community, E. Schoenbaum, Director, Clinical Research Training Program, Institute for Clinical and Translational Research, H. Shamoony, Associate Dean for Clinical & Translational Research

**Challenge/Mission: To become a nationally known center for comparative effectiveness research on the practice and outcomes of urban primary care.**

**Purpose/Objectives:** • Provide support to investigators to transform CER ideas into feasible projects and to collaborate in multidisciplinary CER teams;

- Maintain a broad research agenda encompassing patient-centered health services and comparative effectiveness research;
- Facilitate patient-centered outcomes research by new and established faculty.

**Methods/Approach:** *Proposed Activities*

- *Coordination* of submission of CER grant proposals and management of CER grants.
- *Review of proposals* prior to submission to the IRB and/or to funding agencies. CCER faculty will assist investigators to develop methodologically sound CER projects and to polish grant proposals.
- *Sponsorship of affinity groups* to support varied faculty interests, promote collaboration and multidisciplinary research, and provide forums for idea exchange.
- *Research development seminars* to enable junior researchers to present ideas/plans for research projects/grants and obtain feedback from experienced researchers. In addition to work-in-development, sessions will focus on mechanical challenges of securing funding and conducting human subjects and population research.
- *Advanced research seminars* to allow experienced researchers to discuss work-in-progress, plan methods for new projects, and refine presentations prior to national meetings.
- *Pilot grants* to leverage funding for junior investigators collecting preliminary data for future grants.
- *Intensive 8-week summer program* in epidemiology and statistics, to allow clinicians to obtain basic CER skills. While operating as a “stand alone program” (i.e. participants will gain fundamental skills even if unable to commit to a full degree program), the program will work closely with existing MS/MPH programs and faculty.

*Structure:* Personnel will include: Director (Dr. Arnsten), FT Grants Administrator, FT Administrative Assistant. Administrative staff will provide assistance in preparing budgets and budget justifications, as well as technical, administrative, and clerical help with CER grant applications and assistance in hiring and managing research staff (in conjunction with existing offices of grant support, grants accounting, clinical trials, and human resources). Faculty will include: collaborators (named above), existing faculty who are conducting outcomes, health services, or other patient-oriented research, and new faculty recruits.

**Outcomes and Evaluation:** To date, start-up funds have been obtained for faculty recruits, awarding of pilot grants, and development of an intensive summer program. A steering committee has been convened and has begun to meet. Invitations have been issued to potential external advisory board members.

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