ABSTRACT: 2015 ELAM Institutional Action Project Poster Symposium

Project Title:
An Innovation and Implementation Core to Promote Public Health System and Academic Health Center Partnership

Name and Institution:
Arleen F. Brown, MD, PhD, Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA

Collaborators:
Los Angeles County Department of Health Services (LAC DHS): Hal Yee, Chief Medical Officer, Los Angeles County Department of Health Services (LAC DHS); Anish Mahajan, Director System Planning, LAC DHS; Mark Ghaly, Director, Community Health and Integrated Programs; Clemens Hong, Medical Director, Complex Care Management Program, LAC DHS

UCLA Clinical and Translational Science Institute (CTSI): Steve Dubinett, Director, CTSI and Associate Vice Chancellor for Research; Keith Norris, Co-Director CTSI Community Engagement and Research Program (CERP); Susan Ettner, Health Economist, UCLA

Background, Challenge or Opportunity:
The Clinical and Translational Science Awards (CTSAs) were envisioned as biomedical research infrastructure to support the rapid translation of basic scientific findings into broad public health impact. Stakeholder engagement with patients, communities, and health systems is central to this objective; however, several recent reports have noted the need for greater engagement of these stakeholders in order to more effectively translate evidence into practice. Partnering with public health systems provides an opportunity to bring evidence-based practices to communities with the greatest need.

Purpose/Objectives:
The purpose of this project is to develop an Innovation and Implementation Core unit that will align research conducted in the UCLA CTSI with clinical priorities in LAC DHS. The goals of the Core are to stimulate transdisciplinary team science and innovation between the CTSI and LAC DHS, develop leaders in both settings who can leverage the strengths of both systems, and, ultimately, improve health and health care in LA County.

Methods/Approach:
We have organized a working group of CTSI and LAC DHS leaders to clarify the needs that will be met by the Core, identify the priorities of each partner, affirm commitment to the goals of the core, and specify the resources to be provided by each partner. We will develop a proposal and business/sustainability plan to be reviewed and approved by the CTSI and LAC DHS leadership. The proposal will detail the components, leadership, and operations of the Core; partner rights and responsibilities; the metrics for evaluating the effectiveness of the Core; and candidate projects that will use Core resources.

Outcomes and Evaluation Strategy:
For the project’s first phase: a) A proposal and business/sustainability plan for the Core; b) Approval and funding of the proposal; c) Review and approval of at least one project that will use Core resources

The longer-term outcomes and evaluation strategy will include: a) Number of projects and investigators who use the Core Facility (Core Data); b) Expectations/Satisfaction of investigators who use the Core (Baseline and follow up surveys, possibly comparing those who did and did not use the core); c) Number of patients whose care and outcomes are influenced by the activities of the Core (Administrative Data and Patient Report); d) Improvement in quality of care (Administrative Data and Patient Survey); e) Expectations/Satisfaction of leadership team (Survey at baseline and follow up)
An Innovation and Implementation Core to Promote Public Health System and Academic Health Center Partnership

Arleen F. Brown, MD, PhD UCLA General Internal Medicine and Health Services Research

Background

- The Los Angeles County Department of Health Services (LAC DHS) and the UCLA CTSI share the common mission of improving the health of residents of LA County.
- The Clinical and Translational Science Awards (CTSAs) provide biomedical research infrastructure to support rapid translation of basic scientific findings into broad public health impact.
- Partnering with public health provides an opportunity to bring evidence-based therapies to communities with greatest need.

Purpose

Establish an **Innovation and Implementation Core** unit to align research conducted in the UCLA CTSI with clinical priorities in LAC DHS.

**Goals of the Innovation and Implementation Core**

- Stimulate transdisciplinary team science and innovation between the CTSI and LAC DHS.
- Develop leaders in both settings who can leverage the strengths of both systems.
- Ultimately, improve health and health care in LA County.

Collaborators

**Los Angeles County Department of Health Services (LAC DHS):**
- Hal Yee, MD, PhD Chief Medical Officer
- Anish Mahajan, MD, MSHS Director System Planning
- Mark Ghaly, MD Director, Community Health and Integrated Programs;
- Clemens Hong, MD, MSPH Director, Complex Care Management Program

**UCLA Clinical and Translational Science Institute (CTSI):**
- Steve Dubinett, MD Director and Associate Vice Chancellor-Research
- Keith Norris, MD, PhD and Martin Shapiro, Co-Director Community Engagement and Research Program / Health Services Research
- Susan Ettner, PhD Health Economist and Director TL-2 Program
- Douglas Bell, MD, PhD Director, Biomedical Informatics

Methods / Approach

- Working group of CTSI and LAC DHS leaders meets to clarify the Core goals, identify the priorities of each partner, and discuss resources committed by each partner.
- Interviews with likely users of Core and other stakeholders.
- Small group works out the components, leadership, and operations of the Core; develops Memorandum of Understanding; finalizes metrics for evaluating the effectiveness of the Core; and describes features of candidate projects that will use Core resources.
- Refine business plan / sustainability model.

Outcomes and Evaluation Strategy

**Outcome**

**Proposed Evaluation / Data Source**

**First Phase Outcomes:**
- Proposal and business, sustainability plan submitted to stakeholders
- Review and approval of two projects in first year of the Core

**Longer-Term Outcomes:**
- Number of projects and investigators who use the Core
- Expectations/Satisfaction of DHS & CTSI investigators who use the Core
- # of patients whose care & outcomes are influenced by Core projects
- Changes in quality of care
- Expectations/Satisfaction of leadership team
- Proposals submitted / Successful proposals / Co-funding of Core

**Analytic Plan and Timeline**

- Report
- Peer-reviewed publication
- Proposals

- Successful proposals fund staff / faculty through recharge mechanism

**Project Completion**

- Report
- Peer-reviewed publication
- Proposals

- Successful proposals fund staff / faculty through recharge mechanism

**Analytic Plan and Timeline**

- Report
- Peer-reviewed publication
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**Figure: Flow of Projects through the LAC DHS and UCLA CTSI Innovation & Implementation Core**

- Research Question:
  - Investigator-initiated
  - LAC DHS RFA

- LAC DHS and UCLA CTSI Innovation & Implementation Core Leadership Team Reviews and Prioritizes Submissions

- Implementation Core
  - DHS and CTSI Leadership
  - Committee

- Staffing:
  - Clinical Project Manager, Administrative Support, Statistical Analyst, Research Assistants

- Analytic Plan and Timeline

- Project Completion
  - Report
  - Peer-reviewed publication
  - Proposals

- Successful proposals fund staff / faculty through recharge mechanism

- LAC DPH Mission: To ensure access to high-quality, patient-centered, cost effective health care to Los Angeles County residents through direct services at DHS facilities and through collaboration with community and university partners.