# Creating A Center For Integrated Oral Health Research

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## Background:
- Academic clinical research is at the core of lifesaving discoveries and drug trials.  
- Needs highly trained, calibrated individuals and rigorous testing conditions for high yield.  
- Alarming lack of skilled clinical researchers and external support for clinical research.  
- Impact is especially severe on young faculty, who have a shrinking potential to achieve successful academic careers.  
- Few dental research centers have had sustained success.

## Methods:

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<th>Identify best practices</th>
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<tr>
<td>Identify peer institutions with CRC</td>
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<tr>
<td>Evaluate success and sustainability (NIH funding, Industry contracts, activity)</td>
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<td>Interview deans and center directors to collect data on success and sustainability</td>
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<th>Measure needs within COD and across OSU</th>
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<td>Develop survey based on peer-institution interviews</td>
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<td>Deploy survey to COD and University researchers</td>
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<th>Identify and engage stakeholders</th>
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<td>Identify industry partners and evaluate needs</td>
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<td>Engage with collaborative programs at OSU</td>
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<td>Connect with OSU leadership to identify areas of synergy</td>
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## Purpose:
To design an integrated center for oral health research at OSUCOD.

- **Plan:**  
  - Identify best practices for developing and sustaining a clinical research center.  
  - Design a survey for key stakeholders in the college and university to evaluate demand and needs.  
  - Analyze results of the survey  
  - Consult with existing programs, industry partners and NIH to design and implement a sustainable program.

## Results:

- 10/12 peer institutions created a CRC in the past 20 years  
- 4 still functioning  
- 2 active with >3 grants/contracts  
- 0 report financial success  
- Several factors contribute to success of a CRC  
- Primary factor in sustainability: institutional support  
- Oral healthcare industry not a reliable revenue stream

## Discussion:

- **Next steps**  
  - Deploy survey  
  - Survey results should answer:  
    - How many COD researchers conduct clinical studies  
    - What are their needs (database, study coordinator, regulatory and compliance issues, calibration etc.)?  
    - OSU-wide needs  
    - Create a business plan  
    - Identify potential income streams

## Conclusions:

- Establishing an oral health research center is integral to the research mission of OSUCOD  
- Will provide opportunities for expanding research and scholarship portfolio  
- Selected references:  
  - Weissman JS, Saglam D, Campbell EG, Causino N, Blumenthal D. Market forces and unsponsored research in academic health centers. JAMA. 1999 PMID: 10188659..