

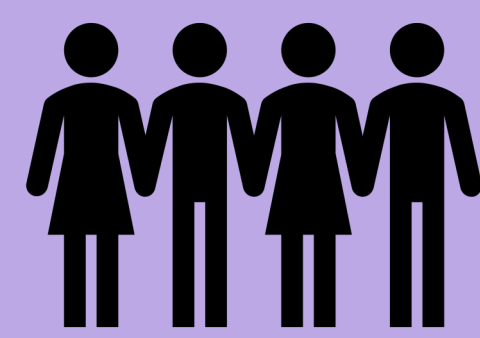
Building a Home for Health Services Research, Implementation, Health Equity, Health Care Quality, and Population Health at Northwestern

Aim: To identify and expand capacity to conduct research focused on health services, care delivery, implementation science, population health, health equity, and learning health at Northwestern.

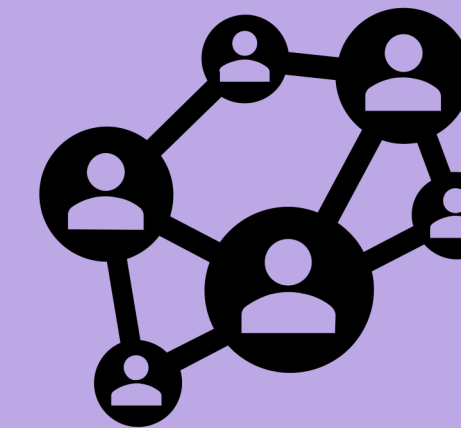
INTRODUCTION

The Center for Health Services and Outcomes Research (CHSOR) is the Northwestern home for health services research, implementation science, health equity, and quality improvement-oriented faculty.

GOALS



Improve collaboration and multidisciplinary research



Establish key linkages with other centers and departments



Enhance recruitment and retention of top talent



Consolidate health services and pop health research across Northwestern

METHODS

- Qualitative needs assessment
- Retreat to kick-off strategic planning process, then follow-up
- Methods inventory and assessment of need for methodologic “cores”
- Newsletter, website revamp

MEASURES

Faculty hired, faculty affiliated, grants applied for, grants funded, total dollars of grants and contract, publications, recognition, and submitted grants supported

RESULTS

- Qualitative interview themes include: silos; leader needs to be an advocate; strategic planning; staff engagement; recruitment

CHSOR Brief(ly) A newsletter for faculty, staff and trainees of CHSOR

Director's Message



Tara Lagu, MD, MPH
Director
Center for Health Services and Outcomes Research
since November 2020

CONCLUSIONS

- Strategic planning underway
- Creating staff interest groups; hosting social events; wellness grant
- Implementation science emerged as a need apart from CHSOR
- Collaboration with health system to align system goals with academic products

ABSTRACT: 2022 ELAM Institutional Action Project for Tara Lagu

Project Title: Development of a Center for Health Services and Outcomes Research to Bridge Healthcare Delivery, Implementation Science, Health Equity, and Population Health

Name and Institution: Tara Lagu MD, MPH, Northwestern Feinberg School of Medicine

Collaborators and Mentors: Ron Ackermann, MD, MPH

Topic Category: Research

Background, Significance of project: The Center for Health Services and Outcomes Research (CHSOR) aims to provide a home for health services research, implementation science, and quality improvement-oriented faculty within the Northwestern Feinberg School of Medicine.

Purpose/Objectives: The goal of this project is to help CHSOR to become the center of health services research from across the medical school and university in order to improve collaboration and multidisciplinary research; establish key linkages with other centers and departments; enhance our ability to recruit and retain top talent; and to consolidate healthcare delivery and population health focused activities from across the campus.

Methods/Approach/Evaluation Strategy:

- Strengthen relationships with existing CHSOR faculty and recruit additional faculty (ongoing)
- Work with our HR partners, conduct interviews to identify areas of need (complete)
- Conduct a scoping evaluation of existing strengths and resources on the campus (ongoing)
- Host a retreat with training and a strategic planning session (May 6)
- Using data from the retreat, draft, edit and publish a new mission and goals (proposed)
- Revamp website to be more attractive to external viewers and prospective faculty (ongoing)
- Hire 3 new investigators over a period of 5 years (ongoing)
- Address gaps in access to methodologic expertise through relationships with the CTSA or development of methodologic cores in implementation science and qualitative methods (ongoing)
- Develop relationships with Northwestern Medicine to foster a “Learning Health System” (in progress)
- Apply for T32 training grants to grow our training profile (in progress)
- Build implementation science at NU, with the goal of growing a new, implementation-science focused center (ongoing)

Outcomes/Results: Using the methods above, we will identify and expand capacity to support faculty and expand health care delivery research, implementation science, population health, health equity, and learning health at NU. We will use metrics including: faculty hired; faculty affiliated; grants applied for (center affiliated PIs); grants funded (center-affiliated PIs); total dollars of grants and contracts; grant applications supported (number and dollars; for non-center affiliated PIs); publications; and recognition by lay press and social media.

Discussion/Conclusion with Statement of Impact/Potential Impact: Strength in health services research, learning health, implementation science, and population health is key if we aim to be connected to our communities; to engage our clinical faculty in the research mission; to improve health equity; to improve efficiency of health care delivery; or to move evidence into practice. A center that supports all of these activities is likely to achieve success in terms of grants and publications, but also in terms of connection between the medical school, the academic and clinical faculty, and the community.