Pilot Grant Program

T3 - RESEARCH INTO PRACTICE AWARD

(Up to $50,000)

The Research into Practice Award is designed to encourage knowledge uptake and use of research findings in practice settings such as hospitals, health systems, community health centers, primary care, specialty clinics, and other ambulatory care settings. Investigators are encouraged to submit pilot studies that will test the effectiveness of implementing research-based clinical interventions, inclusive of evidence-based health promotion, prevention, diagnostic, treatments, and quality of life improvement interventions, in a variety of practice settings and communities. Pilots should be designed to measure 1) uptake and use of evidence-based knowledge by clinicians or other stakeholders, and 2) patient-centered or health outcomes. Examples of pilots include but are not limited to:

1) Pilot testing implementation interventions for a clinical topic in which there is a sufficient research base
2) Studies of the capacity of specific care delivery settings (e.g. primary care, school-based clinics, hospitals and health systems, worksites, ambulatory care sites) to incorporate implementation of evidence-based practices within current organizational structures
3) Studies that focus on the development and testing of theoretical or conceptual models of implementation or dissemination
4) Studies of practice context factors and how they impact knowledge uptake and use at the point of care delivery
5) Pilot testing large scale-up of evidence-based practices in health systems, practice networks, or quality improvement collaborative, to improve care delivery and patient outcomes
6) Effectiveness studies to evaluate the impact of implementing evidence-based information or practice recommendations on patient-centered outcomes of primary importance to patients, families, or communities
7) Pilot testing of innovative dissemination strategies to improve health and health outcomes
8) Pilot testing of dissemination or spread of evidence-based knowledge and interventions to various types of stake-holders such as consumers, caregivers, practitioners, administrators, and community-based organizations
9) Longitudinal or follow-up studies on factors that contribute to the sustainability of research-based improvements in public health and clinical practice
10) Studies testing the effectiveness of dissemination or implementation strategies to reduce health disparities and improve quality of care among rural, minority, and/or other underserved populations
11) Studies of the dissemination of different strategies to promote effective patient and caregiver communication
12) Studies of how approaches to shared decision-making may be implemented among practitioners
13) Studies of how successful screening promotion approaches are implemented in healthcare and community practice

For purposes of this request for applications, dissemination is defined as the targeted distribution of information and intervention materials to a specific public health or clinical practice audience. The intent is to spread knowledge and the associated evidence-based interventions. Successful dissemination may occur quite differently depending on whether the audience consists of consumers, caregivers, practitioners, policymakers, employers, administrators, or other stakeholder groups. In contrast, implementation is the use of strategies to adopt and integrate evidence-based health interventions and change practice patterns within specific settings. Implementation studies seek to understand the behavior of healthcare professionals and support staff, healthcare organizations, healthcare consumers and family members, and policymakers in context as key variables in the sustainable adoption, implementation and uptake of evidence-based interventions. Relevant pilot studies should begin developing a knowledge base about "how" interventions are transported to real-world practice settings, which will likely require more than the dissemination of information about the interventions.

The purpose of the MICHR Research-Into-Practice Award is to support one-year pilot and/or feasibility studies of innovative dissemination and implementation interventions, strategies and/or techniques to
improve or benefit health, healthcare delivery, and/or patient outcomes. This request for applications is interested in studies that show promise for subsequent development of grant applications, typically using the R01, R21, R18, and R34 mechanisms at NIH, AHRQ, or equivalent mechanisms from private foundations. We are seeking investigators committed to developing and leading translation studies that focus on implementation or dissemination in partnership with practice networks, health systems, and communities.

Two types of practice networks (GRIN, NNPN) are listed below and we encourage partnering with these practice networks in submission of this pilot grant application. Applications, however, are not limited to or required to use these practice networks.

**GRIN:** The Michigan State University Department of Family Medicine and the University of Michigan Department of Family Medicine have joined with primary care physicians across the state of Michigan to sponsor the Great Lakes Research Into Practice Network (GRIN). GRIN is a statewide primary care research network of office practices in family medicine, internal medicine, pediatrics, obstetrics and gynecology, and independent-practice nursing. Their mission is to investigate questions related to community-based issues and to improve the quality of primary care through clinical translational research. More information on GRIN can be found on the GRIN website [www.grinpbrn.org](http://www.grinpbrn.org).

**NNPN:** The National Nursing Practice Network is a collaborative of over 100 hospitals and health systems representing 32 states in the U.S. The NNPN is dedicated to improving care of patients through dissemination and implementation of evidence-based clinical and administrative practices, and serves as an infrastructure to support multi-site research. The NNPN is governed by an eight member Steering Committee under the direction of Dr. Marita Titler. More details of the NNPN are available on the NNPN website [www.nnpnetwork.org](http://www.nnpnetwork.org).

If the Principal Investigator is faculty with the appointment of Assistant Professor or below, he or she must either identify an established investigator who is serving as a mentor for the research. Interdisciplinary work between investigators and in particular, interdepartmental projects, are strongly encouraged.

In addition to the stated expectations, please consult the Eligibility Requirements and Application Guidelines for additional Pilot Grant Program restrictions and requirements.

**Funding and cost-share requirement:** Support for this award must be justified by a detailed budget which cannot exceed $50,000. Applicants must ensure that a matching dollar commitment equal to 1/2 of the total budget is secured from the PI's sponsoring department/unit prior to submission. The 1/2 or 25K matching dollar requirement may be divided between collaborating units.

Centers with Pilot and Feasibility Grant Programs may participate as a ‘Department’ for the purposes of this award. A letter from the Center stating its willingness to participate is required PRIOR to the submission of the application.

**T3 – Research into Practice Award Funding Examples:**

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<th>2 sponsoring departments:</th>
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<td>MICHR = 25K</td>
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For questions about this RFA or assistance with the application, please contact Kent Key, kentk@umich.edu