

# CCTST NEWSBRIEF

Center for Clinical and Translational Science and Training  
Accelerating and improving clinical and translational research since 2005

[Home Page](#)   [Events](#)

March 2012



Need assistance with your clinical/translational research project? [CCTST membership](#) (free of charge) is required for service.

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## What does the CCTST do?

Established in 2005, the CCTST provides guidance, information, support, resources and training to researchers across and beyond the Academic Health Center, with the support of a NIH Clinical and Translational Science Award (CTSA). Whether you're at UC, Cincinnati Children's, the Cincinnati VA Medical Center, UC Health University Hospital, or in the Greater Cincinnati community, we're here to help. Can't find what you're looking for? Call 513-803-1044, email [Susan Moore](#), or [visit our website](#).

## Upcoming Events

click links for details!

**March 16, 11:00 AM-1:00 PM: CCTST Grand Rounds on Observational Studies.** See article at top left.

**March 17, 8:00 AM-12:30 PM: 8th annual public forum [Looking Upstream for Environmental Links to Breast Cancer](#).** Keynote speaker **Julia Brody, PhD**, Executive Director, Silent Spring Institute. Presented by the Cincinnati Breast Cancer & the Environment Research Program and Breast Cancer Registry of Greater Cincinnati. UC Reading Campus.

**March 21, 11:00 AM-12:00 PM: CTSC Clinical Research Forum, [Predicting Disease Course in Inflammatory Bowel Disease](#).** Lee A. Denson, MD, Medical Director, CCHMC IBD Center. CCHMC Location D, Rm. 2.46.

**March 23, 8:00-10:00 AM: CCTST Regulatory Forum, [Challenges of Research Involving Online Social Networks](#).** See article at left.

**March 29, 12:00-1:00 PM: CCTST K Club** for current and potential career development grant awardees. **Special guest: Lynne Haverkos, MD, MPH**, Program Director, Pediatric Behavior and Health Promotion, NICHHD. E-151 UC MSB. RSVP for lunch by March 27 to [Susan Moore](#).

**March 29, 8:30 AM-5:00 PM: Appalachian Health Summit, [Neurological Disorders: Quality of Life and Potential for Recovery](#).** Lexington Convention Ctr.

**April 5, 11:30 AM-12:30 PM: REDCap User Group Meeting.** Topic: **TBA**. CCHMC Loc. S, 5.125. Registration not required.

[Click here](#) to request an addition to the CCTST events calendar.

## CTSA Request for Information (RFI): your comments needed

The [National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences \(NCATS\)](#) seeks comments from all key stakeholders in the scientific and public health communities on how it can further strengthen the CTSA program to meet its broad clinical and translational goals. Specifically, public comment is sought on how NCATS can better structure and position the CTSA program to develop novel designs, methods and research and enrich the translational pipeline. [The RFI \(NOT-TR-12-003\) is available here](#). Please forward your comments by **March 28** to CCTST Co-Directors [James Heubi, MD](#) or [Joel Tsevat, MD, MPH](#) to allow time to prepare a complete response from Cincinnati by the deadline of April 6. Our Academic Health Center is one of 60 sites nationally that comprise the [CTSA Consortium](#).

**Past issues of CCTST NewsBrief available online**  
Miss an issue? Catch up on CCTST news by viewing our [NewsBrief archive](#) here.

## CCTST Grand Rounds on Observational Studies March 16

The design and implementation of observational studies are the topic of the next CCTST Grand Rounds on **Friday, March 16 from 11 AM to 1 PM in Room 2351 of the UC Medical Sciences Building (MSB)**.

From 11 AM to 12 PM, **Donald B. Rubin, PhD** will present ***Design of Observational Studies***. Dr. Rubin is the John L. Loeb Professor of Statistics at Harvard University. His talk will explain the components of the potential outcomes framework for causal inference and the reasons why non-randomized (observational) studies should be designed to parallel randomized experiments. Participants will learn about best practices for observational study design, including propensity matching and subclassification.

From 12 to 1 PM, **Cassandra W. Pattanayak, PhD** and **Maurizio Macaluso, MD, DrPH** will present ***Propensity Score Matching to Assess the Effect of Single versus Double Embryo Transfer for In Vitro Fertilization***. Dr. Pattanayak is a College Fellow in Statistics at Harvard University. Dr. Macaluso is Director of the Division of Biostatistics and Epidemiology at Cincinnati Children's and Co-director of the CCTST BERD core. Their talk will provide an example of observational study design in practice and describe the use of the propensity score matching technique which allows multiple background covariates to be taken into account simultaneously.

Lunch is available to CCTST members ([join free of charge](#)). CME credit is offered. Contact [Elizabeth Heubi](#) by **March 14** to register. More information is [available here](#).

## CCTST Forum on Social Networking in Research March 23

The CCTST Regulatory Forum ***Challenges of Research Involving Online Social Networks*** will be held **Friday, March 23 from 8:00 – 10:00 AM** in the **CCHMC Research Auditorium, Location R (the "R Building"), Rooms 3381- 3383**. Open to researchers, administrators and staff from UC, CCHMC, VAMC, UC Health and affiliates, the Forum will discuss:

- Social networking tools
- Demographics
- Privacy
- Information security
- Professional boundaries

The session will be moderated by **Jeremy Corsmo, MPH, CIP**, Director, Office of Research Compliance and Regulatory Affairs (ORCRA), CCHMC.

Featured speakers include:

- **Michael Seid, PhD**, Professor of Pediatrics and Director of Health Outcomes and Quality Care Research, Division of Pulmonary Medicine, CCHMC
- **Jennie Noll, PhD**, Professor of Pediatrics and Director of Research, Division of Behavioral Medicine and Clinical Psychology, CCHMC
- **Michael Linke, PhD**, Chair, UC Institutional Review Board (IRB) and Physical Scientist, Cincinnati VA Medical Center
- **Nancy Jennings, PhD**, Associate Professor, Department of Communication, McMicken College of Arts and Sciences, UC

**Registration is not required.** The Forum agenda is [available here](#). For more information, call (513) 803-2612 or email [Elizabeth Heubi](#).

*Directions: Enter CCHMC Location S (The "S Building" directly across Albert Sabin Way from the College of Medicine) and take the main elevators to the 3rd floor. Follow signs to the Research Auditorium in Location R, Rooms 3381-3383.*

## Collaborative Pilot Grant Opportunity with the University of Kentucky

The CTSA-funded **Center for Clinical and Translational Science (CTS)** of the **University of Kentucky** has announced a collaborative pilot grant opportunity for researchers at UK and UC/CCHMC. This award of the **Pilot and Innovation Research Program** is designed to stimulate collaboration between the respective campuses as well as increase community engaged research and/or pediatric research. Specifically, this joint award aims to catalyze the development or enhance the maturation of multi-institutional research teams capable of performing highly innovative, extramurally fundable research that will continue to contribute to human health and well-being.

One award of up to \$50,000 in direct costs will be made to a meritorious project that involves an equal contribution from UK and the UC AHC, with Co-PIs from each institution who are full-time faculty. The main priorities for funding are: the scientific merit of the project, clear clinical and translational relevance, and the likelihood that funding will result in submission of a competitive application for extramural funding.

Letters of intent (using the [template linked here](#)) and biosketches are **due Thursday, March 22, 2012**. Finalists will be notified April 6, with full proposals due May 11. Funding will be announced July 1. For more information, [see the RFA](#), or go to the [UK CCTS website](#).

**For questions, contact:**

- [Elodie Elayi](#), University of Kentucky CCTS, 859-323-7939
- [Katie Scharf](#), UC CCTST, 513-803-2778

## New PCS Core Director Named

[Bruce Trapnell, MD, MS](#) has been named Director of the Pilot and Collaborative Translational and Clinical Studies (PCS) core of the CCTST, succeeding Tim Cripe, MD, PhD. In this role, Dr. Trapnell will oversee many of the CCTST grant programs which encourage and facilitate translational research, especially that involving interdisciplinary and cross-institutional collaborations. The PCS core recently announced **\$1.3 million in awards** funding 11 "T1" (translation one) projects, 4 T1 junior investigator projects, and 2 innovative cores.

Dr. Trapnell is Professor of Pediatrics and Assistant Director of the Adult Cystic Fibrosis Center at CCHMC. He completed his medical residency at The Ohio State University Hospitals and fellowship in pulmonary medicine at the NIH Clinical Center, where he then served as senior attending physician. Dr. Trapnell's research interests are focused on the pathogenesis and therapy of rare lung diseases and mechanisms by which GM-CSF regulates innate immunity and lung host defense. His research has been continuously funded by the NIH since 2001, shortly after his arrival in Cincinnati.

## Academic Internship Program Faculty Sponsors Needed

Started just over a year ago, the Academic Internship Program offers talented, motivated undergraduate students in science disciplines research-oriented internship opportunities, for which they earn academic credit. Faculty are invited to learn more about how they can engage interns in their research projects. For more information, visit the [Academic Internship Program website](#), or contact [Zach Osborne](#) or [Annie Straka](#).

Questions or comments? [Email us](#) or call (513) 803-1044.

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