



National Pediatric Rehabilitation Resource Center

Growing research, educating, and sharing science

Launching a New NIH Resource Center with Info for Pilot Study Applicants (December 2020)

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Welcome to this Webinar about submitting your invited Pilot Study application to C-PROGRESS

- We received a large number of Letters of Intent
- We selected about half to invite to submit full proposal, based on general perceived relevance to priorities of C-PROGRESS Pilot Program
- We anticipate being able to fund 2 or 3 this round (next round will be April 2021)
- Today we would like to emphasize two things:
 - What the review criteria will be
 - What type of help we can offer as you prepare the application

Quick overview of C-PROGRESS

What is C-PROGRESS?

C-PROGRESS is a nickname or “handle” we use for our new NIH-funded resource center.

C-PROGRESS is an acronym for **C**enter for **P**ediatric **R**ehabilitation: **O**pportunities to **G**row **R**esearch, **E**ducate, and **S**hare **S**cience.

The name C-PROGRESS also underscores our primary purpose as a center – that is, to “**See progress**” in the field of pediatric rehabilitation, particularly through increasing the number of rigorous clinical trials of highly promising interventions.

Rationale for C-PROGRESS

- Pediatric clinical trials – especially in rehabilitation – face challenges that differ from research with adults. These include theoretical, scientific, statistical, methodological, pragmatic, and ethical issues.
- NIH support for pediatric rehabilitation trials is low relative to basic research and adult clinical trials. (Possible developmental disability bias.)
- Many leading clinicians in OT, PT, speech-language, pediatric neurology, and pediatric physiatry do not have credentials to lead rigorous clinical trials. They also have competing clinical and teaching responsibilities.
- Pediatric rehabilitation trials have immense potential to transform clinical practice and life trajectories of children and their families

Our core team at The Fralin Biomedical Research Institute at Virginia Tech, OSU, and Nationwide Children's Hospital

- Stephanie DeLuca, Ph.D. (developmental science)
- Craig Ramey, Ph.D. (developmental science)
- Sharon Ramey, Ph.D. (developmental science)
- Jill Heathcock, Ph.D. (physical therapy)
- Amy Darragh, Ph.D. (occupational therapy)
- Warren Lo, M.D. (pediatric neurology)

We have been collaborating as a team on many multi-site RCTs of pediatric rehabilitation and now seek to share what we have learned and encourage others to develop and rigorously test new forms of pediatric rehabilitation. We look forward to working with everyone in the national network!

Establish Pilot Research Program

- Initial strategy via strong partnership with leading interdisciplinary association (already underway)
- Apply innovative features to work closely at all stages – design, conduct, data analysis and reporting - while concurrently preparing large application for submission
- Fund, when strongly justified, somewhat more expensive and larger pilot studies

Quick Overview of Pilot Studies and Review Criteria

Review Process and Criteria for Pilot Studies

- AACPD Research Committee will review applications using same categories for rating as announced on website (these correspond with NIH review categories plus there is an overall Impact Score)
- Research Committee ratings are given to C-PROGRESS for final decision
- **Criteria for ranking applications by C-PROGRESS are:**
 - Likelihood the Pilot Study will yield strong data to support a highly competitive NIH application in the near future (within 1 to 2 years)
 - Centrality of your topic and research methods to support a clinical trial in pediatric rehabilitation
 - Strength of your team and active engagement of investigators in proposed pilot study

What Types of Help We Can Offer Now

- A telephone call with the PI (others can join) in the next 2 weeks (the sooner, the better) for us to:
 - Learn how your project aligns with the goals of the C-PROGRESS Pilot Studies program
 - Hear more details about your Specific Aims and Approach/Methods
- Immediate interactive feedback from us about clarity and relevance and whether these can be strengthened, if need be

What Types of Help We Can Offer Now

- Reminders that this application is not suited for Graduate or Post-doc applicant projects, for any foreign entity (due to strict NIH guidelines for the C-PROGRESS award), or for methods research that is not closely and clearly linked to a future rehabilitation intervention study
- Importance of being “up to date” on the topics you address in terms of ongoing and published studies on the same or closely related topics

Open Q & A

For More Information:

See our website for background info:

<https://c-progress.org/>

Contact Amy Darragh to ask questions or
schedule a call

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