Fact Sheet

About
The UW ICTR, founded in 2007 with funding from the National Institutes of Health (NIH), represents a novel partnership between the University of Wisconsin-Madison, with the William S. Middleton VA Medical Center in Madison, and the Marshfield Clinic. This union joins the strong and distinct resources of these institutions, bringing together unique opportunities to enhance clinical and translational research in Wisconsin.

UW ICTR is part of a national consortium of research institutes funded by NIH Clinical and Translational Science Awards (CTSA) from the National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences. There are about 60 CTSA sites nationwide with the common goal of Accelerating Discoveries Toward Better Health.

More than 2,500 investigators, staff, and community researchers are members of UW ICTR. Members receive biostatistics and biomedical informatics consultations, scientific editing, and community engagement and research services, as well as access to the Clinical Research Unit at UW Hospital and Clinics and discounted laboratory and imaging services.

Pilot Awards Program
To advance innovative research ideas more quickly:

- ICTR has awarded 90 grants totaling $5.1 million from 2007-2014 to support clinical and Type 1 translational research that includes basic laboratory investigations, patient-oriented research, and innovations in technology and biomedical devices.
- ICTR has awarded 65 grants totaling $4.8 million from 2007-2014 to support community-engaged translational research that addresses improvements in clinical practice and community health. These projects include stakeholder groups as active research partners.

Research Education and Career Development
UW ICTR offers a wide array of educational and career development opportunities for post-doctoral fellows, junior faculty, or students at UW-Madison, as well as other health sciences professionals interested in learning more about clinical and translational research.

- UW ICTR has trained a total of 58 faculty scholars (14 current) and 22 pre-doctoral trainees (six current).

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• UW ICTR founded and administers the Graduate Program in Clinical Investigation offered at UW-Madison. The program includes an MS, a PhD, and a PhD minor degree. There have been 18 MS, 16 PhD minor, and five PhD degrees granted to date. More than 44 students have enrolled in the Clinical Investigation degree programs (31 current) and 18 have earned the Certificate in the Fundamentals of Clinical Research.

• UW ICTR offers a variety of training certificates in clinical research topics; short-term, intensive non-credit workshops, courses and presentations; and co-sponsors summer research programs for medical and pre-doctoral students at UW SMPH and Marshfield Clinic. Specialized training is also available for community research partners and other members of the public.

• With several NIH grants, ICTR leads a national mentoring program in the biomedical sciences that promotes diversity in the research workforce. Mentor training workshops are being tested nationwide and the training manuals are now available as textbooks.

Research Infrastructure
The UW-Madison/Marshfield Clinic partnership advances research statewide by providing strategic support for networks across multiple health care centers (Wisconsin Network for Health Research – WiNHR), and clinic sites (Wisconsin Education and Research Network – WREN), among many others. Such networks provide research collaboration opportunities for both academic and non-academic based health practitioners. ICTR also participates in multi-state networks including the Midwest Area Research Consortium for Health and the Greater Plains Collaborative.

ICTR-supported improvements in existing local and statewide clinical research infrastructure include improving human subjects protections for patients, promoting the efficiency of clinical trials and patient-oriented research, and building electronic management of clinical research data, biospecimens, and data registries. These improvements eliminate duplication and speed the completion of clinical research.

Community Engagement and Research
ICTR supports community engagement and research including practice-based research networks of primary care clinicians, pharmacists, aging specialists, and public health practitioners. Statewide, ICTR-based research encompasses more than 300 community-based and health services collaborators in 53 Wisconsin counties. Academic program partners encompass aging, disparities, public health, rural populations, and pediatrics.

Through the ICTR Collaborative Center for Health Equity (CCHE), the institute works with rural community groups, with Wisconsin tribal communities, and with urban community organizations, including Milwaukee’s United Community Center and Lindsay Heights Neighborhood Alliance. CCHE connects community partners with university researchers to advance long-term, mutually beneficial partnerships in teaching, research, and service initiatives to improve health equity in underserved Wisconsin communities.

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