
An Article Submitted to

*Journal of Health Disparities Research
and Practice*

Manuscript 1987

Mountain West Clinical Translational
Research-Infrastructure Network:
Introduction

Author #1*

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Abstract

The <http://ctrin.unlv.edu/> Mountain West (MW) Clinical Translational Research Infrastructure Network (CTR-IN) Program represents a consortium of all of the 13 major public universities across seven Institutional Development Awards (IDeA) states with the overall goal of increasing and enhancing research capacity. The MW CTR-IN Program covers 1/3rd the U.S. land mass and almost 1/3rd of all IDeA states stretching across 4 time zones. The 13 major U.S. public partner universities in the 7 IDeA states are as follows: University of Alaska at Anchorage (UAA), University of Alaska at Fairbanks (UAF), University of Montana (UM), Montana State University (MSU), University of Idaho (UI), Boise State University (BSU), University of Idaho State (UIS), University of Wyoming (UW), University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV), University of Nevada Reno (UNR), New Mexico State University (NMSU), University of New Mexico (UNM) - Health Science Center (HSC), and the University of Hawaii at Manoa (UHM). The initial five-year grant was awarded to UNLV in 2013 by the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and has been recently renewed in August 2018 to continue until June 2023. [Funded by National Institute of General Medical Services (NIGMS) – U54GM104944-02]

Over the years, the MW CTR-IN Program has supported, stimulated and facilitated collaborations to foster and enhance clinical research from many diverse disciplines. The MW CTR-IN Program has stimulated research in a spectrum of scientific disciplines (e.g., epidemiology, biostatistics, pharmacology, social and behavioral sciences, nutrition, nursing, health economics, community-based participatory research, dental health, and medicine), methodologies (e.g., observational and experimental) and health professions (e.g., nursing, public health, pharmacy, clinical psychology, sports physiology, physical therapy), including Engineering, which traditionally does not engage in clinical and translational human research. One of the important mechanisms by which the MW CTR-IN Program supports and facilitates collaborations is through our Pilot Grants Program. The Pilot Grants are designed as catalysts to help researchers lay the groundwork for larger, independent grant proposals. To date, almost \$47 million in extramural grant funding has been achieved, representing a return on investment of 1013%!

The major focus of the MW CTR-IN Program is on addressing health disparities in the MW Region. Hence, our abstracts for our 6th Annual MW CTR-IN Meeting reflect our focus on health disparities. The MW CTR-IN 6th Annual Meeting showcased the health disparity research results of our 10 Pilot Grant Awardees (Table 1). These 10 Pilot Grants represented most of our University Partners involving a wide range of health disparity research areas and very diverse populations. For example, our current PG Awardees' research areas varied from Dr. Atif Zafar's focus on

“Healthcare disparities among Hispanics, Native Americans, and Caucasians in Ischemic Stroke Patients” to Dr. Renee Robinson’s research in “Assessing the Long-Term Outcomes of Specialized Supportive Care on the Health of Infants with In-Utero Opioid Exposure”. In addition, our “Call for Abstracts” also generated a tremendous interest from our MW faculty investigators. In total, over 26 abstracts were submitted, of which only 3 were accepted for oral podium presentation and 9 were accepted for poster presentation (Table 2). These abstracts also again showed the diversity of research being conducted in the MW region.

KEYWORDS: Translation Research; Infrastructure



Journal of Health Disparities Research and Practice
Volume 12, MWCTR-IN Special Issue, Summer 2019, pp. 1-4
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School of Public Health
University of Nevada, Las Vegas

Mountain West Clinical Translational Research-Infrastructure Network: Introduction

Parvesh Kumar, MD, University of Nevada, Las Vegas School of Medicine
Corresponding Author: Parvesh Kumar, MD, parvesh.kumar@unlv.edu

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Journal of Health Disparities Research and Practice Volume 12, MW-CTRIN Special Issue,
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TABLE 1. MW CTR-IN Program - Year 6 Pilot Grant Awardees

NAME	AFFILIATION	PROJECT TITLE
Lorraine Benuto, PhD	<i>University of Nevada, Reno</i>	iYo no estoy loco/a! Using a telenovela style Education Entertainment Video to reduce stigma among Latinos in an Integrated Healthcare Setting
Tyler Brown, PhD	<i>Boise State University</i>	Analysis of Knee Motion to Prevent and Treat the Increasing Incidence of Premature Knee OA
Brian Cherrington, PhD	<i>University of Wyoming</i>	The Role of Citrullination in the Etiology of Female Rheumatoid Arthritis
Cynthia Curl, PhD	<i>Boise State University</i>	Assessment of Risk Factors for Health Disparities among Latina Farm Workers
Cynthia Lancaster, PhD	<i>University of Nevada, Reno</i>	Augmenting Exposure Therapy for Social Anxiety with Transcranial Direct Current Stimulation
Sophia Newcomer, PhD	<i>University of Montana</i>	Bridging the rural-urban disparity: a mixed-methods analysis of human papillomavirus vaccine uptake in Montana

Renee Robinson, PharmD	<i>University of Alaska, Anchorage</i>	Assessing the Long-Term Outcomes of Specialized Supportive Care on the Health of Infants with In-Utero Opioid Exposure
Chloe Wardropper, PhD	<i>University of Idaho</i>	Perceptions of Lead Contamination and Behavioral Intentions in a Mining Region
Nicole Young, PharmD	<i>University of Hawaii</i>	Secondary Stroke Prevention Among Filipinos Compared with Other Racial Groups in Hawaii
Atif Zafar, MD	<i>University of New Mexico - Health Sciences Center (HSC)</i>	Healthcare disparities among Hispanics, Native Americans, and Caucasians in Ischemic Stroke Patients

TABLE 2. MW Clinical & Translational Research – Oral Presentation & Poster Abstracts

ORAL PRESENTATIONS		
PRESENTING AUTHOR	AFFILIATION	ORAL PRESENTATION TITLE
Chien-An “Andy” Hu, PhD	<i>University of New Mexico – School of Medicine</i>	APOL1 CKD Risk Alleles in New Mexico African American and American Indian Populations: Racial Disparity
Vallabh “Raj” Shah, PhD	<i>University of New Mexico – Health Sciences Center (HSC)</i>	Home base care approach to reduce disparity in diabetes care in Zuni Indians
Helen “Cathleen” Tarp, PhD	<i>Idaho State University</i>	Changes in knowledge of HPV, cervical cancer, PAP smears, and attitudes towards HPV vaccination from a Community-Based Intervention for Latinas
POSTERS		
PRESENTING AUTHOR	AFFILIATION	POSTER TITLE
May Rose Dela Cruz, DrPH	<i>University of Hawaii at Manoa</i>	Human Papillomavirus (HPV) Vaccination Status Among

		University Freshmen in Hawaii
Adrienne Dillard, PhD	<i>University of Hawaii at Manoa</i>	Understanding Caregivers of Native Hawaiian Kupuna with Age-Related Memory Loss on One Hawaiian Homestead
Eunjung Lim, PhD	<i>University of Hawaii at Manoa</i>	Effect of Socio-Demographics, Health Related Problems, and Family Structure on Chronic Absenteeism Among Children
Elaine Nguyen, PharmD	<i>Idaho State University</i>	Changes in gender representation in pharmacy research literature
Angela Sy, DrPH	<i>University of Hawaii at Manoa</i>	Community Assessment on Colorectal Cancer Screening Knowledge, Attitudes, Behavior, and Health Literacy in American Samoa: Methods and Results
Munirih Taafaki, BA	<i>University of Hawaii at Manoa</i>	Knowledge and Attitudes of Guam residents towards cancer clinical trial participation
Tyran Terada, MSW	<i>University of Hawaii at Manoa</i>	“Making do, as best as we can” Cancer in American Samoa: Qualitative Methods and Results
Tanna Woods, PhD	<i>University of Hawaii at Manoa</i>	Pre-Diabetes in the Hispanic Population: Adolescents to Adulthood
Xiaomeng Xu, PhD	<i>Idaho State University</i>	Understanding prediabetes through Facebook: Pilot study protocol and lessons learned