

## Research Activities Newsletter

The latest news and announcements



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## In the News: Congratulations to the following awardees!!!



**Erin Burnelle**, Occupational Therapist with CAT, received three renewals of her awards from the NYS Justice Center for the Protection of People with Special Needs for the projects entitled, *Technology-Related Assistance for Individuals with Disabilities (TRAID) Program*; *TRAID Program – Money Follows People*; and *TRAID Program – ACCESS/VR*. The TRAID Programs seek to increase awareness of, use, and implementation of assistive technology (AT) and provide information and referrals to improve the function, participation, and independence of individuals of all ages with disabilities.



**David Hostler**, Professor and Chair of Exercise and Nutrition Sciences, is PI on a new award from the U.S. Navy Office of Naval Research for the research project entitled *Managing Ventilatory Response and Cerebrovascular Reactivity to CO<sub>2</sub> in Divers*. This project will enable the research team to describe cerebrovascular responses to immersion before and after RMT as well as to measure CO<sub>2</sub> sensitivity and cerebral blood flow in response to increased work of breathing and elevated CO<sub>2</sub> in neutral, warm, and cold water. **Hayden Hess**, Assistant Professor of Exercise and Nutrition Sciences, is Co-Investigator.



**Ahmed Soliman**, Predoctoral Student in Epidemiology and Environmental Health, received a continuation of his fellowship award from the American Heart Association, Inc. for the project entitled, *Proton Pump Inhibitors and Measures of Cardiovascular health in Postmenopausal Women*. The study will continue to examine the association between the use of proton pump inhibitors and new cardiovascular events in those with no history of heart disease. **Michael LaMonte**, Research Professor of Epidemiology and Environmental Health, serves as faculty sponsor.



**Jennifer Temple**, Professor of Exercise and Nutrition Sciences and Community Health and Health Behavior, is PI on a continuation award from the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases/NIH for the research project entitled, *The Role of Food Insecurity and Sensitization in Excess Weight Gain in Adolescents from Low to Moderate income Households*. The study continues to examine the novel behavioral phenotype, sensitization to repeated intake of snack food, and its relationship with food insecurity, body weight and weight change over time in a cohort of adolescents from moderate to low-income families. **Gregory Wilding**, Professor and former Chair of Biostatistics is Co-Investigator.

### **Congratulations to the following SPHP faculty who were awarded new grants (as PI or Co-I) in the University at Buffalo's 2023 Clinical and Translational Science Institute Pilot Studies Program:**



**Jacob McPherson**, Clinical Assistant Professor and **Christopher Stavisky**, Clinical Assistant Professor, both of Rehabilitation Sciences are PIs for the project entitled *Feasibility of Aerobic Exercise for Recovery from Work-Related Concussion*. **Jeffrey Miecznikowski**, Associate Professor and Interim Chair of Biostatistics is Co-I on the project



**Pauline Mendola**, Chair and Professor of Epidemiology and Environmental Health and **Ekaterina Noyes**, Professor of Epidemiology and Environmental Health and Associate Dean for Translational and Team Sciences are MPI and Co-I respectively for the project entitled, *Feasibility of Reducing Postpartum Mortality Among Rural Patients: Use of Remote and Community-based Interventions*.





**Ekaterina Noyes**, Professor of Epidemiology and Environmental Health and Associate Dean for Translational and Team Sciences, **Ajay Anand Myneni**, Research Scientist, Department of Surgery and **Gregory Wilding**, Professor and former Chair of Biostatistics are Co-Investigator's and Consultant (PI: Jessica Martinolich, Surgery) respectively for the project entitled, *Impact of the Increase in Availability of Ambulatory Surgery on Treatment Decision Making: A Mixed Methods Study*.



**Ekaterina Noyes**, Professor of Epidemiology and Environmental Health and Associate Dean for Translational and Team Sciences and **Gregory Wilding**, Professor and former Chair of Biostatistics are Co-Investigators (PI: Darryl Somayaji, School of Nursing) for the project entitled, *Increasing Lung Cancer Screening: An Urban Primary Care Health Center Approach*.



**Jihnee Yu**, Professor of Biostatistics, is Co-Investigator (PI: Ciprian Ionita, Biomedical Engineering) for the project entitled, *AHEAD – Acoustic Hemodynamic Examination Through AI Diagnosis*.

## Grant Clinic

### General Notice

#### [NOT-OD-24-037](#)

#### **Request for Information (RFI): Inviting Comments on the National Institutes of Health (NIH) Strategic Plan for Data Science 2023-2028**

The purpose of this Request for Information (RFI) is to solicit public comments on the updated NIH Strategic Plan for Data Science, 2023-2028. The NIH is publishing this Notice to solicit input on topics under consideration for the strategic plan from its stakeholders, including members of the scientific community, academic institutions, the private sector, health professionals, professional societies, advocacy groups, and patient communities, as well as other interested members of the public. All comments must be submitted electronically on the submission website: <https://datascience.nih.gov/rfi-strategic-plan>. Responses must be received by 11:59:59 pm (ET) on March 15, 2024.

### Notice of Intent to Publish

#### [NOT-NR-24-005](#)

#### **Notice of Intent to Publish a funding Opportunity Announcement for Transformative Research to Address Health Disparities and Advance Health Equity (U01 Clinical Trial Optional)**

The purpose of this notice is to inform the research community of the National Institute of Nursing Research (NINR), with other NIH Institutes, Centers, and Offices (ICOs) (see notice for those included), intends to publish a NOFO, Transformative Research to Address Health Disparities and Advance Health Equity (U01 Clinical Trial Optional). The Transformative Research to Address Health Disparities and Advance Health Equity initiative will solicit applications to support unusually innovative intervention research addressing social determinants of health (SDOH) which, if successful, would have a major impact on preventing, reducing, or eliminating health disparities and advancing health equity. Projects must clearly demonstrate, based on the strength of the logic, a compelling potential to produce a major impact on advancing NIH's commitment to addressing SDOH to accelerate progress in improving health for all. Preliminary data are not required for this initiative. The NOFO is expected to be published in early winter 2024 with one expected application date in late winter 2024.

#### [NOT-OD-24-045](#)

#### **Notice of Intent to Publish a Funding Opportunity Announcement for Clinical Sites for the Environmental Influences on Child Health Outcomes (ECHO) IDeA States Pediatric Clinical Trials Network – 3 (UG1 Clinical Trial Required)**



The Environmental influences on Child Health Outcomes (ECHO) Program Office intends to publish a NOFO inviting applications from entities/institutions in Institutional Development Award (IDeA)-eligible States to participate as Clinical Sites in the Environmental influences on Child Health Outcomes IDeA States Pediatric Clinical Trials Network (ECHO ISPCTN). This Notice runs in parallel with companion notice (see Notice [NOT-OD-24-046](#) that follows) that will solicit applications for a Data Coordinating and Operations Center (DCOC) within the IDeA States. The ECHO ISPCTN Clinical Sites and DCOC together will form the ECHO ISPCTN. The ECHO ISPCTN is the intervention component of the ECHO Program and supports its overall mission to enhance the health of children for generations to come. The NOFO is expected to be published in January 2024 with an expected application due date in April 2024.

#### [NOT-OD-24-046](#)

#### **Notice of Intent to Publish a Funding Opportunity Announcement for Data Coordinating and Operations Center for the ECHO IDeA States Pediatric Clinical Trials Network – 3 (U24 Clinical Trial Optional Infrastructure)**

The Environmental influences on Child Health Outcomes (ECHO) Program Office intends to publish a funding announcement, issued by the Office of the Director (OD), National Institutes of Health (NIH), inviting applications from entities/institutions in Institutional Development Award (IDeA)-eligible states to participate as the Data Coordinating and Operations Center (DCOC) in the Environmental influences on Child Health Outcomes IDeA States Pediatric Clinical Trials Network (ECHO ISPCTN). The NOFO is expected to be published in January 2024 with an expected application due date in April 2024.

### **NIH Funding Opportunities: Request for Applications (RFA)**

#### **Cancer**

##### [RFA-CA-24-016](#) – (R21 Clinical Trial Optional)

#### **Development of Innovative Informatics Methods and Algorithms for Cancer Research and Management**

The purpose of this NOFO is to invite exploratory/developmental research grant applications (R21) for innovative informatics methods and algorithms to improve the acquisition, analysis, visualization, or interpretation of data across the cancer research continuum including cancer biology, cancer treatment and diagnosis, early cancer detection, risk assessment and prevention, cancer control and epidemiology, and/or cancer health disparities. As a component of the NCI's [Informatics Technology for Cancer Research](#) (ITCR) Program, the emphasis of this NOFO is on supporting the development of novel informatics capabilities that involve a high degree of innovation that have the potential to accelerate or enhance research.

**Application Due Dates:** June 11, 2024 and November 15, 2024. **Expiration Date:** November 16, 2024.

##### [RFA-CA-24-017](#) – (U01 Clinical Trial Optional)

#### **Early-Stage Development of Informatics Technologies for Cancer Research and Management**

##### [RFA-CA-24-018](#) – (U24 Clinical Trial Optional)

#### **Advanced Development of Informatics Technologies for Cancer Research and Management**

##### [RFA-CA-24-019](#) – (U24 Clinical Trial Optional)

#### **Sustained Support for Informatics Technologies for Cancer Research and Management**

The purpose of these funding opportunities is to invite Cooperative Agreement applications for: 1) development of enabling informatics technologies; 2) advanced development and enhancement of emerging informatics technologies; 3) continued development and sustainment of high value informatics research resources. These funding opportunities will improve the acquisition, management, analysis, dissemination, visualization, and interpretation of data and knowledge across the cancer research continuum including cancer biology, cancer treatment and diagnosis, early cancer detection, risk assessment and prevention, cancer control and epidemiology, and/or cancer health disparities.

[RFA-CA-24-017](#) encourages applications that involve the development of new, user-friendly informatics technologies that support a wide range of cancer research, including discovery biology, population studies, as well as clinical and translational research.

[RFA-CA-24-018](#) encourages applications that involve the advanced development and enhancement of emerging, user-friendly informatics technologies that support a wide range of cancer research, including discovery biology, population studies, as well as clinical and translational research.



[RFA-CA-24-019](#) invites applications to support the sustained operations of informatics technology resources that support a wide range of cancer research, including discovery biology, population studies, as well as clinical and translational research. **Application Due Dates:** June 11, 2024 and November 15, 2024. **Expiration Date:** November 16, 2024.

## HIV/AIDS

[RFA-DA-25-060](#) – (RM1 Clinical Trial Optional)

### High Priority HIV and Substance Use Research

The purpose of this funding opportunity is to support high priority research at the intersection of HIV and substance use. This NOFO invites research projects with the potential to open new areas of basic and clinical HIV/AIDS research and/or lead to new avenues for prevention, treatment and cure of HIV among people who use addictive substances. The scope of this NOFO includes basic science, epidemiologic, clinical, intervention, and implementation research. **Application Due Date:** Multiple Dates; see announcement. **Expiration Date:** February 12, 2027.

## Miscellaneous

[RFA-NR-24-004](#) – (U01 Clinical Trial Optional)

### Transformative Research to Address Health Disparities and Advance Health Equity

The Transformative Research to Address Health Disparities and Advance Health Equity initiative is soliciting applications to support unusually innovative intervention research addressing social determinants of health (SDOH) which, if successful, would have a major impact on preventing, reducing, or eliminating health disparities and advancing health equity. Interventions addressing research questions that target social determinants of health (SDOH), which include structural factors and conditions of daily life, are required for this initiative (See NIH SDOH conceptualization here <https://www.ninr.nih.gov/researchandfunding/nih-sdohrcc#tabs2>). **Application Due Date:** March 22, 2024.

**Expiration Date:** March 23, 2024.

[RFA-AI-23-065](#) – (U19 Clinical Trial Not Allowed)

### Centers of Excellence for Translational Research (CETR)

This Notice solicits applications to participate in the Centers of Excellence for Translational Research (CETR) program, comprising multi-disciplinary collaborations with diverse research communities in infectious diseases, microbiology, – omics, immunology, and vaccinology focused upon the development of MCMs and associated platforms/technologies targeting bacteria or fungi with known and emerging resistance to current therapies. For the purposes of this NOFO, "translational research" is defined as research and developmental activities focused on transforming basic science outcomes (knowledge, technologies, infrastructure, etc.) into new and innovative approaches for prevention, diagnosis, and treatment to combat known and emerging resistant bacterial and fungal pathogens. **Application Due Date:** April 29, 2024. **Expiration Date:** April 30, 2024.

## NIH Funding Opportunities (PAR)

### Addictions/Substance Use

[PAR-24-089](#) – (K12 Clinical Trial Optional)

### NIDA Mentored Clinical Scientist Development Program Award in Substance Use and Substance Use Disorder Research

This Notice encourages applications for institutional research career development programs that propose to support intensive, supervised research and career development experiences leading to research independence for clinician scientists (Scholars) conducting substance use and substance use disorder (SUD) research.

For this NOFO, clinician scientists may include (but are not limited to) physicians, clinical psychologists, social workers, and pharmacists. Note: This Funding Opportunity allows appointment of Scholars proposing to serve as the lead investigator of an independent clinical trial; or proposing a separate ancillary clinical trial; or proposing to gain research experience in a





clinical trial led by another investigator, as part of their research and career development. **Application Due Dates:** Multiple Dates; see announcement. **Expiration Date:** November 14, 2026.

[PAR-24-060](#) – (R34 Clinical Trial Optional)

### **Pilot and Feasibility Studies in Preparation for Substance Use Prevention Trials**

The purpose of this notice is to encourage theoretically driven pilot and/or feasibility research in the following areas: 1) the development and pilot testing of new or adapted interventions to prevent or delay the initiation of substance use and/or the progression from use to misuse or disorder and 2) services research examining questions specific to the prevention of substance use. **Application Due Dates:** Multiple Dates; see announcement. **Expiration Date:** January 8, 2027.

## **Cancer**

[PAR-24-122](#) – (R01 Clinical Trial Optional)

### **Modular R01s in Cancer Control and Population Sciences**

This notice of funding opportunity (NOFO) encourages applications for research in cancer control and population sciences. The overarching goal is to provide support to promote research efforts on novel scientific ideas that have the potential to substantially advance cancer research in statistical and analytic methods, epidemiology, cancer survivorship, cancer-related behaviors and behavioral interventions, health care delivery, digital health and data science, and implementation science. **Application Due Dates:** July 5 and November 5, 2024. **Expiration Date:** November 6, 2024.

[PAR-24-072](#) – (R01 Clinical Trial Required)

### **Cancer Prevention and Control Clinical Trials Grant Program**

Through this NOFO, the NCI invites applications for support of investigator-initiated clinical trials related to the programmatic interests of the NCI Division of Cancer Prevention and/or the NCI Division of Cancer Control and Population Sciences that have the potential to reduce the burden of cancer through improvements in early detection, screening, prevention and interception, healthcare delivery, quality of life, and/or survivorship related to cancer; with such attributes, the proposed studies should also have the potential to improve clinical practice and/or public health. Applications submitted to this NOFO must include studies that meet the NIH definition of a clinical trial (see [NOT-OD-15-015](#) for details) and provide specific clinical trial information as described in this NOFO and the application instructions. This NOFO does not and will not support clinical trials for studies of cancer diagnosis and/or oncologic therapy in patients. **Application Due Dates:** Multiple Dates; see announcement. **Expiration Date:** January 8, 2027.

[PAR-24-085](#) – (R01 Clinical Trial Required)

### **National Cancer Institute's Investigator-Initiated Early Phase Clinical Trials for Cancer Treatment and Diagnosis**

Through this Notice, the NCI is soliciting research projects that implement early phase (Phase 0, I, and II) investigator-initiated clinical trials focused on cancer-targeted diagnostic and therapeutic interventions of direct relevance to the research mission of DCTD and OHAM. The proposed project must involve at least 1 clinical trial related to the scientific interests of one or more of the following research programs: Cancer Therapy Evaluation Program, Cancer Imaging Program, Cancer Diagnosis Program, Radiation Research Program, Complementary and Alternative Medicine Program and/or the HIV and AIDS Malignancies Research Programs. Applicants may propose to conduct an early phase trial by itself, or in combination with another research aim(s) as appropriate. This NOFO does not accept Phase III clinical trials. **Application Due Dates:** Multiple Dates; see announcement. **Expiration Date:** January 8, 2027.

## **HIV/AIDS**

[PAR-24-091](#) – (R01 Clinical Trial Optional)

[PAR-24-092](#) – (R21 Clinical Trial Optional)

### **Multidisciplinary Studies of HIV/AIDS and Aging**

This NOFO invites applications at the intersection of HIV and aging by proposing research that aims to meet the following objectives: 1) Improve the understanding of biological, clinical, and socio-behavioral aspects of aging through the lens of HIV infection and its treatment; and 2) Improve approaches for testing, preventing, and treating HIV infection, and managing HIV-related comorbidities, co-infections, and complications in different populations and cultural settings by



applying current aging science approaches. Proposed research must be consistent with the HIV/AIDS Research Priorities outlined by NIH's Office of AIDS Research (OAR), as described in [NOT-OD-20-018](#). **Application Due Date:** Multiple Dates: see announcement. **Expiration Date:** May 8, 2027.

## Miscellaneous

[PAR-23-319](#) – (R01 Clinical Trial Optional)

### Implementation Research on Noncommunicable Disease Risk Factors among Low- and Middle-Income Country and Tribal Populations Living in City Environments

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) participating Institutes and Centers (ICs), in collaboration with the [Global Alliance for Chronic Diseases](#) (GACD), invite applications for implementation research focused on addressing risk factors for common noncommunicable diseases (NCDs) in [World Bank-defined low- and middle-income countries](#) (LMICs) and American Indian/Alaska Native (AI/AN) populations in the United States (US). Air, water, and soil pollution; lack of greenspace; urban heat islands; lack of safe infrastructure for walking, cycling, and active living; lack of access to healthcare facilities, lack of health insurance, and cost of medications; housing condition; and wide availability of tobacco, alcohol, and unhealthy foods and beverages contribute to the NCD epidemic in city environments. This NOFO supports applications that propose implementation research to reduce the risks of NCDs in the context of cities in LMICs and/or among AI/AN populations in US cities, with the potential to equip policymakers and practitioners with evidence-based strategies for prevention and/or management of NCDs among disadvantaged populations globally. **Application Due Date:** March 11, 2024. **Expiration Date:** March 12, 2024.

## Limited Submissions

Only one application per institution is allowed for the following FOAs and prior approval from the OVPR is required to be the sole applicant. If interested in applying, please provide the OVPR with notification 60 days prior to the deadline to [ovpr.limitedsubmission@research.buffalo.edu](mailto:ovpr.limitedsubmission@research.buffalo.edu) before proceeding with the application.

### [Limited Submission Funding Opportunities](#)

Prior Research Opportunities can be found on the SPHP RAS website and by clicking the link below:

### [Research Opportunities from Past Newsletters](#)

## Words to Live By

"There are two ways to spread happiness; either be the light who shines it or be the mirror who reflects it."

- Edith Wharton

For more information on RAS services, visit our website at [sphhp.buffalo.edu/ras](http://sphhp.buffalo.edu/ras)

