

Promoting Implementation and Comparative Effectiveness Research (CER) at the UC Davis CTSC

UC Davis has a relatively small footprint in the implementation and CER arena. In order to develop investigator teams and promote research in these critically important areas, the UC Davis CTSC has embarked on several initiatives.

The Bioinformatics Program, working along with the clinical Information Technology group of the UC Davis Health System (UCDHS) has disease registries that provide real-time data on performance metrics on various clinic issues. Examples include registries for sepsis, venous thromboembolism, burn patients, diabetes, congestive heart failure, and blood product utilization. These registries allow team members from clinical operations to track performance metrics and clinician investigators to study implementation strategies for outcome improvement.

Partnering with the Process Improvement Team (Lean Team) at UCDHS, a group interdisciplinary group of efficiency experts, nurses and physicians are trying to improve the continuum of care for patients with sickle cell disease. This effort has involved direct patient input to tier priorities for improvement. This has involved a significant educational effort as well as the clinical informatics team to develop standardized orders. Outcomes after a concerted educational intervention are being analyzed at this time, and interventions modified based on results.

In cooperation with the Betty Irene Moore School of Nursing and the Center for Health Policy Research, the UC Davis CTSC and School of Medicine Deans Office is offering up to 6 pilot awards to develop new teams and capabilities in implementation and comparative effectiveness research.

Ultimately, these CTSC led efforts will increase our presence in this research arena and more importantly have a positive impact on the health of the people in our region and nation.