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Latino Aging Research Resource Center
Scholar project and pilot grant program
Addressing cultural disparities in care

Today Latinos comprise 6% of the age 65 and above population and by 2050 this is expected to increase to 18%. There will be a parallel and dramatic increase in the number of older Latinos with cognitive impairment and dementia.

Aging Latinos frequently experience disparities in care for Alzheimer’s disease and related dementias because of lack of access to high-quality and affordable care.

This disease burden causes stress and distress among their families, especially those members responsible for the care of the family member living with cognitive impairment.

The Latino Aging Research Resource Center (LARRC) at UC Davis Health System is one of seven nationwide Resource Centers for Minority Aging Research. LARRC — the only center to specifically focus on Latinos and cognitive health — aims to reduce disparities in cognitive health, impairment, related health-care services and caregiving in older Latinos and their families.

Multidisciplinary expertise

LARRC brings together an interdisciplinary collaborative group of researchers, with faculty at UC Davis, including the UC Davis School of Medicine and the Betty Irene Moore School of Nursing, as well as a regional academic network that includes California State University Sacramento, UCSF Fresno, and UC Merced (Partners in Latino Aging Research).

LARRC will accomplish its mission by:

- Increasing the capacity, size, and diversity of the research workforce and promoting careers in minority-aging research through strategic outreach, sustained mentoring and pilot grants to LARRC Scholars
- Increasing knowledge in cognitive health and impairment for older Latinos through interdisciplinary research and training in measurement, mechanisms, and interventions
- Advancing the science of recruitment and retention of older Latinos related to cognitive health and related healthcare services
- Conducting community-engaged research, community outreach and dissemination to older Latinos and their care providers.

Pilot grant program

LARRC is offering pilot grants of up to $25,000 in direct costs for one year to assistant professors or advanced postdoctoral fellows. There is strong mentoring support through LARRC for awardees. Applicants can be from UC Davis or similar institutions conducting research focused on Latinos and factors related to cognitive health, such as:

- Qualitative studies
- Brain imaging and genetics
- Risk factors
- Lifecourse perspectives
- Social and cultural factors
- Caregiver effects
- Services and interventions

For more information about the LARRC Scholar Project, please visit healthsystem.ucdavis.edu/latinoaging/scholar_project.html

Pilot Grant program applications and instructions are available online at healthsystem.ucdavis.edu/latinoaging/pilot_program.html