

## Is your proposed research clinical, translational or CER?



### **CLINICAL**

Clinical research is defined as patient-oriented research, that is, research conducted with human subjects or on material of human origin such as tissues, specimens and cognitive phenomena, for which an investigator or colleague directly interacts with human subjects. Clinical research embraces a spectrum of scientific disciplines (e.g. epidemiology, biostatistics, pharmacology, biology and psychology), methodologies (e.g. observational, experimental), health professions (e.g. radiology, nursing, clinical psychology), and specialties and subspecialties (e.g. internal medicine, surgery, pediatrics, obstetrics/gynecology, oncology, cardiology, nephrology and others).

#### Examples of Clinical Research:

1. Patient-oriented research, include:
  - a. Mechanisms of human disease
  - b. Therapeutic interventions
  - c. Clinical trials
  - d. Development of new technologies
2. Epidemiologic and behavioral studies
3. Outcomes research and health services research



### **TRANSLATIONAL**

"T1 translational research" may include laboratory-based research aimed at clarifying mechanisms of disease; developing measures or markers of disease presence, severity, or improvement; and developing drugs, devices, or interventions to treat disease or to improve health.

"T2 translational research" generally identifies community, patient, physician, and organizational factors that serve as barriers and facilitators to translation; develops novel intervention and implementation strategies to increase translation, such as quality improvement programs or policies; and evaluates the impact of strategies to increase translation of relevant healthy behaviors and processes of care.



### **COMPARATIVE EFFECTIVENESS RESEARCH**

Comparative effectiveness research is the conduct and synthesis of research comparing the benefits and harms of different interventions and strategies to prevent, diagnose, treat and monitor health conditions in "real world" settings. The purpose of this research is to improve health outcomes by developing and disseminating evidence-based information to patients, clinicians, and other decision-makers, responding to their expressed needs, about which interventions are most effective for which patients under specific circumstances.

- To provide this information, comparative effectiveness research must assess a comprehensive array of health-related outcomes for diverse patient populations and subgroups.
- Defined interventions compared may include medications, procedures, medical and assistive devices and technologies, diagnostic testing, behavioral change, and delivery system strategies.
- This research necessitates the development, expansion, and use of a variety of data sources and methods to assess comparative effectiveness and actively disseminate the results.

The definition above is not meant to exclude randomized trials; however, these trials would need comparator arms other than placebo and be representative of populations seen in “real world” practice.

**\*\*\*KL2 applicants: Keep in mind that for the KL2 award your research project must not focus solely on an animal model. The basis of this award is centered around clinical research, and therefore you must be able to show that your research has to meet the definitions above.\*\*\***