

UConn School of Dental Medicine

Clinical Research Support Program (CRSP)

Program for providing support for pilot or limited-scope clinical research projects in the SDM.

Guiding Principle for this program

The SDM aims to encourage and support increased clinical research activity by SDM clinical faculty.

Program Benefits

Subject to the processes and limitations described in this document, the following institutional resources may be made available for SDM faculty wishing to conduct clinical research:

1. Research Assistant support to help with IRB and other administrative processes involved in clinical research, such as subject enrollment or appointment scheduling.
2. Staff support to help with using axiUm for clinical research projects
3. Statistical consulting services for study design, power calculations, and data analyses (submit separate form at: <https://statsconsulting.uconn.edu/project-submission-sdm/>)
4. When appropriate, mentoring support will also be provided, especially for junior faculty who are encouraged to work with a mentoring committee.

Process

SDM faculty requesting support will be asked to submit a research protocol as well as details about resources requested in a fillable form. The submission will be reviewed by a committee consisting of the Associate Dean for Research, Associate Dean for Faculty Affairs, and Director of the Dental Clinical Research Center. The committee may consult with other parties as needed to help with review of the submissions. The results will be communicated in writing to the Principal Investigator. When applicable, the committee will also help to identify appropriate mentors, collaborators, and training opportunities that can help the project succeed.

If resources are awarded, the Principal Investigator is expected to submit an annual report describing progress and outcomes including abstracts, publications, conference presentations, grant applications etc. as well as continued resources requested for the following year, if any.

Limitations

1. This support is intended only for investigator-initiated projects for which there is no funding available yet or limited funding from a professional association or foundation that does not cover the costs of requested services. It is not intended to subsidize industry-initiated projects.
2. Staff support is subject to availability of the relevant staff members.
3. Research Assistant support is restricted to administrative processes and does not include clinical dental assisting or related clinical functions.
4. It is the Principal Investigator's responsibility to ensure that all regulatory approvals are in place before any clinical research activity takes place.
5. No waiver of clinical care fees will be considered.

Examples of projects that could be eligible for this support

1. Project involving electronic chart reviews using axiUm for research purposes.
2. Systematic reviews with meta-analyses that need statistical support.
3. Investigator-initiated pilot clinical research studies.
4. Survey and Qualitative Research.

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