



# Clinical Trials at UTHSC

# The Clinical Trials Governance Board (CTGB) oversees clinical research studies at the University of Tennessee Health Science Center

In keeping with the institution's mission of health care, education, and the advancement of knowledge, the CTGB provides centralized support and resources to education and research personnel.

## About UTHSC Clinical Trials

The University of Tennessee Health Science Center CTGB is designed to facilitate knowledge and opportunity to participate in a premier research program for human subject research within a large federated system created to support and facilitate the conduct and execution of clinical trials throughout the region. We offer numerous services for both the aspiring and established investigator and their programs, including participation in a federated integrated model with common support in development of clinical research grants and education, biomedical informatics, contracts and budgeting, education and training, regulatory services, coordinator and laboratory services, and financial and personnel management. Our objective is to provide research services to all affiliated investigators, and to allow for individualized investigator and program development while integrating and capitalizing on shared resources for all.

## Goals

The goal of the Clinical Trials Governance Board at UTHSC is to illustrate a path forward for collaboration and participation of investigators in the clinical research mission of UTHSC. The CTGB website details currently available services and domains in which to realize a wide variety of potential clinical research projects including the development and maintenance of a state-wide clinical research network. There exists current expertise in Industry-Sponsored Research, Translational and Federally Funded Research, Epidemiologic and Investigator-Initiated Research, Pediatric Research, and Dental Research, with imminent areas of expertise in Nursing and Pharmacy Research. Shared resources and synergies exist between these domains and may be used by interested investigators or broader research programs to take advantage of services offered through the federated program. Such services include:

- Study development support
- Subject recruitment support
- Study design and biostatistics support
- Contract and budget support
- Database building and informatics
- Investigator education
- Subject tracking and invoicing support
- Medical writing support
- Network collaboration processes
- External program development

The existence of this federated model serves as the main mechanism by which UTHSC can achieve its research mission- to create and sustain cultures of clinical investigation that benefits investigators, research subjects, and the myriad of patients that will ultimately benefit from results of clinical research.

# Clinical Trials Groups on Campus

## Office of Clinical Research

Medical Director: Ari VanderWalde, MD, MPH  
Director/Manager: Risa Ramsey, PhD

- Primary Focus: Industry Funded Clinical Research Support
- Locations/Facilities: Research space both at UTHSC, Methodist University Hospital, and capacity to provide traveling support in MD offices. Investigational product and specimen storage, lab, equipment, exam rooms, investigator/staff touch-down space
- Engagement: Can provide full-study administrative support or a la carte services based on investigator need
- In-house services: Full access to contract, budget, regulatory, nurse coordinator, data, and invoicing support, clinical trial management system

## Clinical Research Center

Medical Director: Samuel Dagogo-Jack, MD  
Director/Manager: Mary Peterson, RN

- Primary Focus: Patient-oriented publicly funded and/or translational research
- Location: Independent Research Space within Methodist University Hospital. 8 exam rooms, bionutrition lab, exercise physiology room/equipment, DEXA scanner, IP storage, sample processing laboratory
- Engagement: Review of proposals, shared

- space and equipment. Coordinator support
- In-house services: Regulatory, nurse coordinator, research nutrition, laboratory testing, invoicing, clinical trial manage

## Office of Preventive Medicine Clinical Research

Medical Director: Karen Johnson, MD, MPH  
Director/Manager: Catherine Womack, MD

- Primary Focus: Epidemiologic, behavioral, health-services, and translational/community research
- Locations: Clinical research space within Department of Preventive Medicine at 66 Pauline and in East Memphis (756 Ridge Lake). Exam rooms, procedure rooms, laboratory processing and storage, administrative space, investigational product storage.
- Engagement: Review of proposals, provision of space and equipment. Coordinator support
- In-house services: Grant proposals, biostatistics, regulatory, nurse coordinator, investigator and staff education

## Pediatric Clinical Research Unit (PCRU)

Medical Director: Dennis Black, MD  
Admin Director: Sheon Lynch

- Primary Focus: Pediatric clinical research
- Location: Le Bonheur Children's Hospital, as an arm of the Children's Foundation Research Institute (CFRI) in the CFRI Re-

- search Tower. Exam rooms, laboratory, administrative space, pharmacy
- Engagement: Review of proposals, full study administrative support for pediatric trials
- In-house services: Grant preparation and submission, biostatistics, biomedical informatics, budgeting, contracting, regulatory, medical writing, nurse

## Dental Clinical Research Center

Medical Director: Franklin Garcia-Godoy, DMD

- Primary Focus: Dental/Oral Clinical Research
- Location: College of Dentistry. Dental chairs/units, consultation area, operative area with radiology capabilities
- Engagement: Coordinator support for dental trials
- In-house services: Space provision, administrative support

## Contact Us

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