

Partnering with the VA for Clinical & Biomedical Research Opportunities

Mark Roltsch, PhD, Holly Krull, PhD & F. Alex Chiu, PhD Program Managers
Office of Research and Development
Veterans Health Administration





Program Mission



- Veteran-centric innovations
- Access to clinical trials
- Engaging and training care providers



Overview of ORD Services



Biomedical Laboratory R&D (BLRD) Preclinical research exploring the molecular, genomic, or physiological aspects of diseases affecting Veterans that does not involve human subjects

Clinical Science R&D (CSRD)

Research entailing interventional & effectiveness, clinical, epidemiological, & technological studies involving intact human beings as the unit of examination.

Rehabilitation R&D (RRD) Research focusing on innovations & effective integration of preclinical, clinical, & applied rehabilitation studies to advance Veteran rehabilitation

Health Services R&D (HSRD) Research emphasizing patient care, care delivery, outcomes, cost, & quality, & critical issues for Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans that require long-term care.



Unique Program Capabilities



- Only federal research program that focuses entirely on the needs of Veterans.
- Encompasses a large, integrated health system.
 - 152 medical centers, 1700 points of care
 - > > 100 research stations
 - >9 million Veterans enrolled
 - "Bench to Bedside"
- Involves a network of affiliated academic institutions as well as non-profit and profit organizations
- Includes collaborations with other federal partners to advance agency Mission.

Veteran-centric innovations



Recent VA research advances

Nicotine patch

DEKA Prosthetic Arm (with DoD)

Neuro-prosthetics

Shingles vaccine

Genetics of schizophrenia

Cognitive-Behavioral Therapy (PTSD)



ORD Award Types



VA is an intramural research program, no "granting" authority

- Research Award Enhancement Program/Centers/COINs (I50)
 - Typically 5 years, \$315K to over \$1.0M/yr
- Merit Awards (I01)
 - Up to 4 years, funding depends on service (some RFAs with other limits)
- Small / Pilot Projects (I21)
 - I-2 years, \$100K/year
- Career Development Awards (IK1*, IK2)
 - Up to 5 years of salary support, project funds
- Research Career Scientists (IK6)
 - 5 7 years, salary support





Funding Rates



Funding Rates for						
	Submittted		Funded		% funded	
Fall 2017	BL	CS	BL	CS	BL	CS
Merit Review	359	126	83	34	23	27
CADE	15	24	4	7	27	29
Pilot	3	I	0	0	0	0
RCS	17	I	12	1	71	100
Spring 2017						
Merit Review	335	103	81	22	24	21
CADE	15	15	5	5	33	33
Pilot	7	6	3	2	43	33
RCS	8	1	8	1	25	100



FY17 ORD Investment by Topic (DRA)



