

CTSA Program Common Metrics Operational Guidelines: Pilot Funding Publications

Template Element	Description
1. Operationalized Metric Title	Pilot Funding Publications
2. Purpose	The purpose of this metric is to measure and develop strategic management plans to ensure that important findings from research studies supported by the CTSA Pilot Programs are being disseminated in the scientific literature.
3. Operational Specification	Number and percent of research projects that expended hub pilot funding that resulted in at least one publication.
4. Technical Description	Key Definitions
	 A research project that has used hub pilot funding is a research project that has expended any CTSA pilot funding (including institutionally supplemented funds administered as part of the hub pilot program) since January 1, 2012. A publication refers to any article on which pilot grant recipients (PI or co-PI) were authors or co-authors that was published in a peer reviewed journal. To be eligible, a publication must have a PMCID number and be considered a CTSA Program hub-related publication.
	 Resulted in a publication means that there is evidence that the publication was directly influenced by the pilot funding. Evidence can include (generally listed from stronger to weaker): Explicit acknowledgment of the CTSA Program grant in the publication, plus evidence linking the publication to the pilot grant (pilot awardees should be encouraged to include citations to the CTSA Program grant wherever appropriate). Corroboration by a researcher that a specific article was influenced by the pilot grant.

Version 1.5 – 2.2.2017 Page **1** of **3**

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	 Corroboration by hub staff that a publication by a pilot grant recipient is plausibly related to a pilot grant.
	Timeframe This metric will be collected annually (calendar year) and is cumulative for all hub pilot projects that expended any pilot funds since January, 2012. If your hub was funded later than this date, the beginning date is as of funding date.
	Data Scope All pilot research projects that have expended pilot funds since January 1, 2012.
5. Scores(s), Metric Type, Numerator and Denominator Statements or Continuous Variable Statement, Inclusion/Exclusion Criteria	 This metric results in two scores: A. Number of pilot research projects expending funds since January 1, 2012 Metric Type: Count Continuous Variable Statement: The total (cumulative) number of pilot research projects that have expended pilot funds since January 1, 2012. Inclusion Criteria for Continuous Variable: Each pilot project is counted only once, in the calendar year in which it first expended funds. Exclusion Criteria for Continuous Variable: Pilot projects that expended funds prior to January 1, 2012 only should not be included in this metric.
	B. Percent of pilot research projects with at least one research publication Metric Type: Rate Denominator Statement: The denominator for this score is the result for score A. Number of pilot research projects expending funds since January 1, 2012 Numerator Statement: The number of pilot research projects included in the denominator that have achieved at least one research publication.

Version 1.5 – 2.2.2017 Page **2** of **3**

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	 Inclusion Criteria for Numerator: A pilot study is counted once in the numerator in the calendar year in which they publish their first article.* A publication can be counted under two different grants if it can be shown to have been influenced by both. Exclusion Criteria for Numerator: A publication is not counted if it does not have a PMCID number.
6. Data Sources & Methods for Data Collection	Most service providers at CTSA Program hubs keep records on which research projects they have worked with during any given time period. If the hub maintains a central service tracking database for the entire hub, then determining the number of research projects that expended pilot funds since January 1, 2012 should be relatively simple. Many hubs have regular (e.g., annual) reporting systems that request that grantees provide information about publications that resulted from the pilot.
7. Frequency of data collection and Reporting	Data are collected annually for all pilot grant awards.
8. Unit of Analysis	Data will be collected within each hub at the pilot award project level and reported aggregated at the institutional (hub) level.
9. Notes/Comments	*A pilot study is counted only once in the numerator regardless of the total number of subsequent publications.
	It is assumed that each hub will store and be able to produce reasonable supporting evidence for this metric (e.g., lists of pilot research projects and subsequent publications they achieve). It is recognized that there is a significant time period between pilot funding and subsequent publications.

Version 1.5 – 2.2.2017 Page **3** of **3**