

Dear Researchers,

We are delighted to invite you to participate in a **Tufts CTSI Symposium Plus on Sensors, Devices, and Biomarkers in Medicine**. Symposium Plus is a valuable component of the Tufts CTSI research support continuum, helping to catalyze ideas that address translational roadblocks with the goal of improving public health.

We will launch the Sensors, Devices, and Biomarkers in Medicine Symposium Plus with a workshop on **April 24, 2018 on the Tufts University Boston Health Sciences Campus**. This event will help to catalyze nascent research efforts throughout Tufts CTSI by advancing projects and fostering collaboration for our new program, T.5 Capacity in Medical Devices.

The April workshop will focus on several use cases, with the objective of assisting nascent teams to develop a research project proposal for future grant submission or to advance a concept with high-impact potential to the next stage of development. We invite you and your colleagues to submit a two-page research concept proposal outlining your project idea.

Prior to the workshop, we will select three or four projects to work with Tufts CTSI navigators to address translational roadblocks, provide methodological and technical support, identify additional project team members as required, and assist teams to develop proposals or advance development of their concept. At the workshop, each of the project leads will present their proposals and meet with their research teams and other attendees to discuss how best to move their projects forward. Following the workshop the Tufts CTSI project-specific mentoring teams will continue to work with research teams for 6-8 months to bring project goals to fruition.

Depending on the project needs, Tufts CTSI may provide funding to support project planning, preliminary data collection, development costs, and/or access to fee-based services for free or discounted rates including our clinical research units and the Biostatistics, Epidemiology, and Research Design Center (BERD). Funding will be made available at the discretion of the Tufts CTSI Research Collaboration Team in collaboration with applicants after proposals are selected and presented at the workshop.

Proposals must be submitted by January 5, 2018. Please disseminate this request for two-page research concept proposals to interested colleagues.

Proposal Guidelines:

- No longer than two pages
- One inch margins
- Arial 11 font
- Proposals must be submitted via email to graham.jones@tufts.edu and hsantos@tuftsmedicalcenter.org

Proposal Selection Criteria:

Level 1 – Each project must meet all of the following:

- The submitting investigator at a Tufts CTSI partner/collaborator organization is willing to lead further project development.
- Project has clear application to human health and meets definition of translational research found here: <http://www.tuftsctsi.org/about-us/what-is-translational-science/>.
- Demonstrates some key aspect of implementation and dissemination.

Level 2 – To foster a diversity of study methods and approaches, proposed projects should be responsive to most of the following study design attributes:

- Is clearly translational.
- Is close to having impact on health – i.e., has a near-term application in humans.
- Balances risk with impact – i.e., addresses a challenging and important health problem.
- Provides evidence to suggest that the proposed project has a high likelihood of being funded (by government, foundation, or industry) or moving from academic to industry via a startup or industry sponsorship.
- Uses prospective data and evaluation (may supplement with retrospective data)
- Is conducted in usual care settings (not exclusively in academic settings)
- Provides clear metrics of success

Important Dates:

- January 5, 2018: deadline for proposal submission to graham.jones@tufts.edu and hsantos@tuftsmedicalcenter.org
- February 9, 2018: announcement of selected proposals
- April 24, 2018: Sensors, Devices, and Biomarkers in Medicine workshop in Boston.

We look forward to receiving your proposals and to collaborating with you at the Sensors, Devices, and Biomarkers in Medicine workshop. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact hsantos@tuftsmedicalcenter.org.

Sincerely,

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