

Mixed Methods: 2020 Symposium Plus Request for Proposals (RFP)

Dear Researchers,

Tufts Clinical and Translational Science Institute (CTSI) is pleased to invite you to submit a two-page research concept proposal for presentation at the Mixed Methods 2020 Symposium Plus.

What is Symposium Plus?

Tufts CTSI's Symposium Plus program is designed to launch promising research ideas and teams through an interactive half-day symposium, and to coach these teams toward a full funding proposal within **one year** of the symposium.

Why Participate?

The Symposium Plus program has helped past project teams accelerate funding proposals, meet new collaborators, and led to funded projects since 2014. Selected research teams:

- Will receive **project-specific tailored feedback** from a diverse audience of about 40-50 individuals, including technical and methodological experts, symposium participants, and community or patient representatives through breakout discussions.
- Will receive **ongoing mentoring** and facilitated connections to relevant Tufts CTSI services for up to 12 months after the event from Tufts CTSI Navigators and the Research Collaboration Team.
- Projects may be eligible for a **small planning grant** up to \$5,000 to assist with project start-ups such as project planning or stakeholder meetings. Note: *Funding will be made available at the discretion of the Tufts CTSI Research Collaboration Team and Senior Leadership in collaboration with applicants after proposals are selected and presented.*

Key Dates and Your Commitment

If selected, you will commit to participating in the following program requirements.

Submit Concept Proposal	Present at Symposium	Develop a Full Grant Proposal	Present at Tufts CTSI	Submit Your Grant
February 2020				
March 27, 2020				Request for Proposal (RFP) announced
				Deadline for proposal submission to hsantos@tuftsmedicalcenter.org
April 10, 2020				Announcement of selected proposals
April 10, 2020 through				Symposium preparation meetings with Tufts CTSI Navigators (60-90 min)
Date of Event				
TBD (based on presenters schedule)				Presentation at Mixed Methods Symposium
September 2020 through March 2021				Proposal development stage by leveraging Tufts CTSI resources and services
No later than September 2021				Grant proposal draft presented to Tufts CTSI Research Collaboration Team (RCT)
No later than December 2021				Proposal submission status updates to Tufts CTSI

The concept proposal submission deadline is March 27, 2020 to Hannah Santos, Senior Project Manager hsantos@tuftsmedicalcenter.org.

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Proposal Submission Guidelines

Topics

The two-page clinical and translational research concept proposals can be on any health-related topic; in this call, the focus is on taking a mixed methods approach. Your proposal should include plans for the use of quantitative and qualitative data to address the research question. Studies that aim to collect and analyze qualitative and quantitative data are preferred; however, sequential exploratory designs where qualitative or quantitative data have already been collected, and the research is intended to add a qualitative or quantitative component, will also be considered. For an overview of mixed methods designs please consult [Pluye and Hong \(2014\)](#).

Format:

- Approximately 1000 words, single spaced, no longer than two pages
- One inch margins
- Arial 11 font
- Structured summary (Background, Specific Aims, Approach, Significance, Innovation)

Minimum Requirements

- 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>

Ideal Proposal Attributes

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

- Is close to having impact on health – i.e., has a near-term application in humans.
- Contains a research question that addresses a challenging and important health problem.
- Identifies one or more potential funding sources for the proposed project.
- Considers possible scientific approaches and outcome measures (no preliminary data required).

Questions about the Program?

Please contact Hannah Santos, Senior Project Manager hsantos@tuftsmedicalcenter.org.

We look forward to receiving your proposals and to collaborating with you at this symposium!

Sincerely,

Mixed Methods Symposium Plus Planning Committee

Susan Koch-Weser, ScD, ScM

Cheryl London, DVM, PhD

Robert Sege, MD, PhD

Daniel E. Weiner, MD, MS

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Mixed Methods References

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