

2025

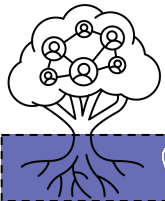
# Lessons Learned: Navigating Research Funding in Academic Family Medicine Departments

## Research Directors and Chairs



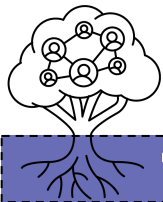
# Overview

- Issues to consider that impact research funding
- Funding-related considerations
- Chair's recruitment / retention package includes research
- Available research funding streams
- Managing external funding
- Sources of funding
- Understanding funding limitations
- Value proposition for research



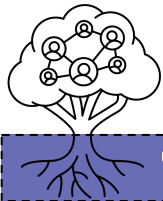
# Issues That Impact Research Funding

- Assess existing infrastructure (hard money, mentorship, cross-departmental support)
- Engage leadership for insights on funding flows
  - Clinical chairs and department administrators
  - Past negotiations
  - Support structures
- Clarify access to indirect funds
- Conduct financial review with department leadership
- Strategically align research & scholarship with departmental vision and priorities



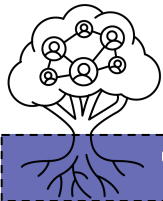
# Funding-Related Considerations

- Establish a leadership role (Vice Chair/Director of Research)
- Ensure FTE for leadership role supports growth
- Plan bridge funding for gaps
- Provide start-up funds for new faculty
- Offer pilot funding for early research
- Budget for travel, publication fees, assistants
- Explore endowed positions
- Consider joint appointments



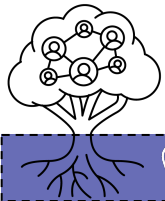
# Chair's Package Includes Research

- Develop a 5-year growth plan
- Grant management support
- Build research infrastructure (statisticians, data management, grant writers, graphic designers)
- Support scholarship development (boot camps, publishing \$)
- Allocate time & resources for clinical faculty research
- Differentiate core research vs. broad-based support



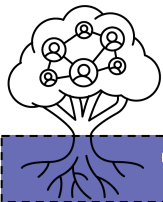
# Funding Streams for Research

- Soft funding considerations
  - Plan for pre-grant writing costs
  - Ensure sustainability post-grant
- Balance team building with project-based support
  - Develop long-term research teams
  - $\pm$
  - Support projects case-by-case



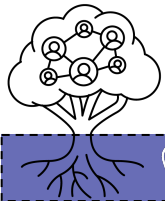
# Managing External Funding

- Strong administrative oversight □ Strengthen pre- & post-award management
- Share resources (biostatisticians, research coordinators, data managers)



# Sources of Research Funding

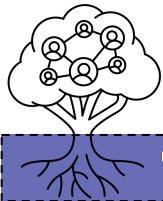
- Federal: NIH, PCORI, AHRQ
- State & local government grants
- Private foundations: Gates, Moore Foundation
- DOD & VA funding
- Institutional grants (pilot studies)
- Private donations & endowments & department-based campaigns
- Team science initiatives
  - Interdisciplinary collaboration can lead to innovative funding opportunities





# Understanding Funding Limitations

- Be aware of agency restrictions on what can be funded
- Address funding gaps (PCORI vs. NIH)
- Address institutional requirements
- Understand PI eligibility policies
- Tailor strategies by department type (basic science vs clinical)
- Plan for K-award gaps in faculty salaries



# Value Proposition of Research

- Align research with promotion & tenure criteria
- Research enhances departmental reputation & recruitment
- Drive innovation & evidence-based practice
- Boost public & institutional recognition
- Prioritize community-based research
- Foster culture of research & scholarship (e.g., one paper/faculty/year)
- Promote cross-departmental collaboration
- Address financial misconceptions
- Implement a track-based point system



# The End Results

- By addressing these key lessons, departments can:
  - Build sustainable research funding strategies
  - Support faculty growth
  - Enhance reputation
  - Advance scientific innovation

