

JENNIFER GUIDA  
BASIL ELDADAH  
DIANE ST. GERMAIN

# FUNDING ENVIRONMENT AND COLLABORATIONS

(45 MINS)



**Jennifer Guida, Ph.D., M.P.H.**  
Program Director  
Basic Biobehavioral and Psychological  
Sciences Branch of the Behavioral  
Research Program (BBPSB)



**Basil Eldadah MD, PhD**  
Supervisory Medical Officer  
Division of Geriatrics and  
Clinical Gerontology (DGCG)



**Diane St Germain, RN, MS, CRNP**  
Community Oncology and Prevention  
Trials Research Group

# National Cancer Institute Funding Opportunities

2023 CARG Annual Meeting

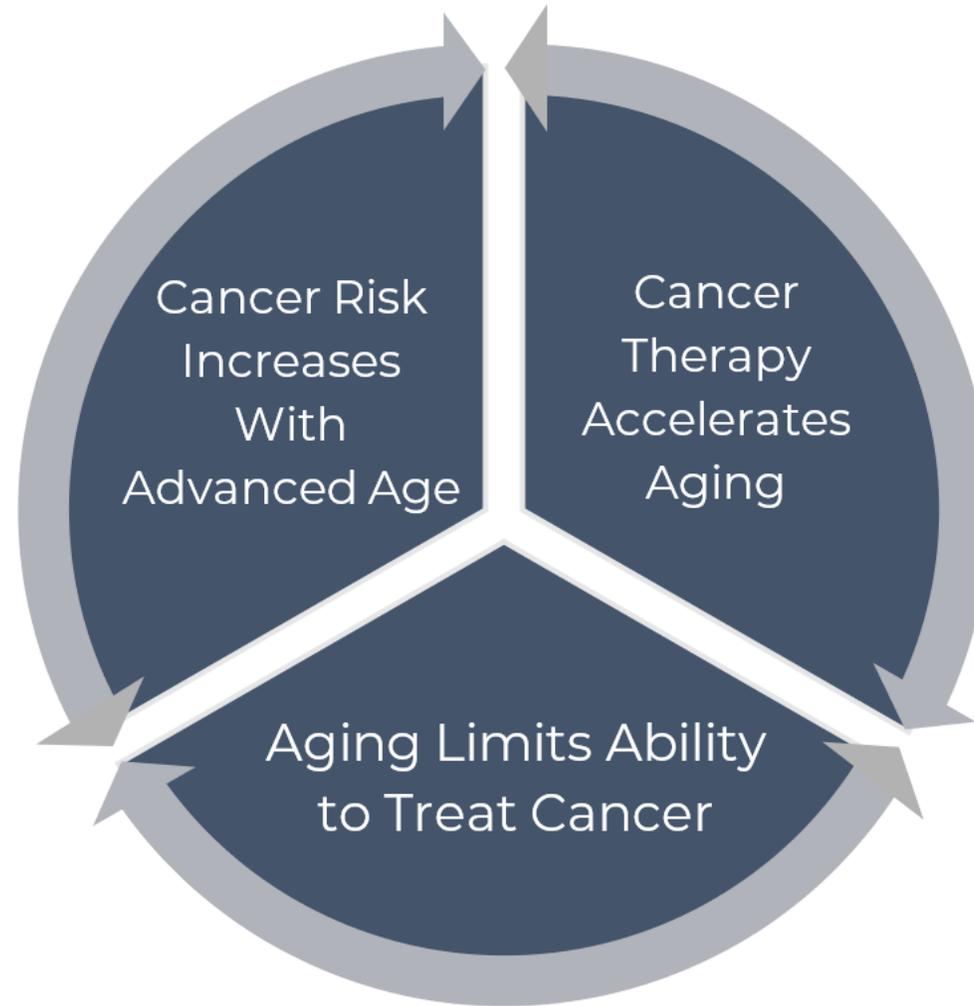
Jennifer Guida, PhD, MPH

Program Director

Division of Cancer Control and Population Sciences

[Jennifer.Guida@nih.gov](mailto:Jennifer.Guida@nih.gov)

*“It is becoming increasingly clear that time itself is a potential mutagen.”*



*“Many cancer drugs contribute directly to aging.”*

*“Therapies that are beneficial in young adults can be difficult to use in older adults because of the age-associated reduced resilience of the host.”*

*Dr. Sharpless, 2020 CAIG virtual conference*

## New Goals for Cancer Moonshot 2.0

- Cut today's age-adjusted death rate from cancer by at least 50 percent.
- Improve the experience of people and their families living with and surviving cancer.



The NEW ENGLAND  
JOURNAL of MEDICINE

Perspective FREE PREVIEW

Treatment of Older Adults with Cancer — Addressing Gaps in Evidence

Monica M. Bertagnolli, M.D., and Harpreet Singh, M.D.



Older adults with cancer are underrepresented in clinical research. Because of insufficient data, such patients and their physicians must make life-altering treatment decisions without adequate evidence-based guidance.

September 16, 20  
N Engl J Med 20  
DOI: 10.1056/NE

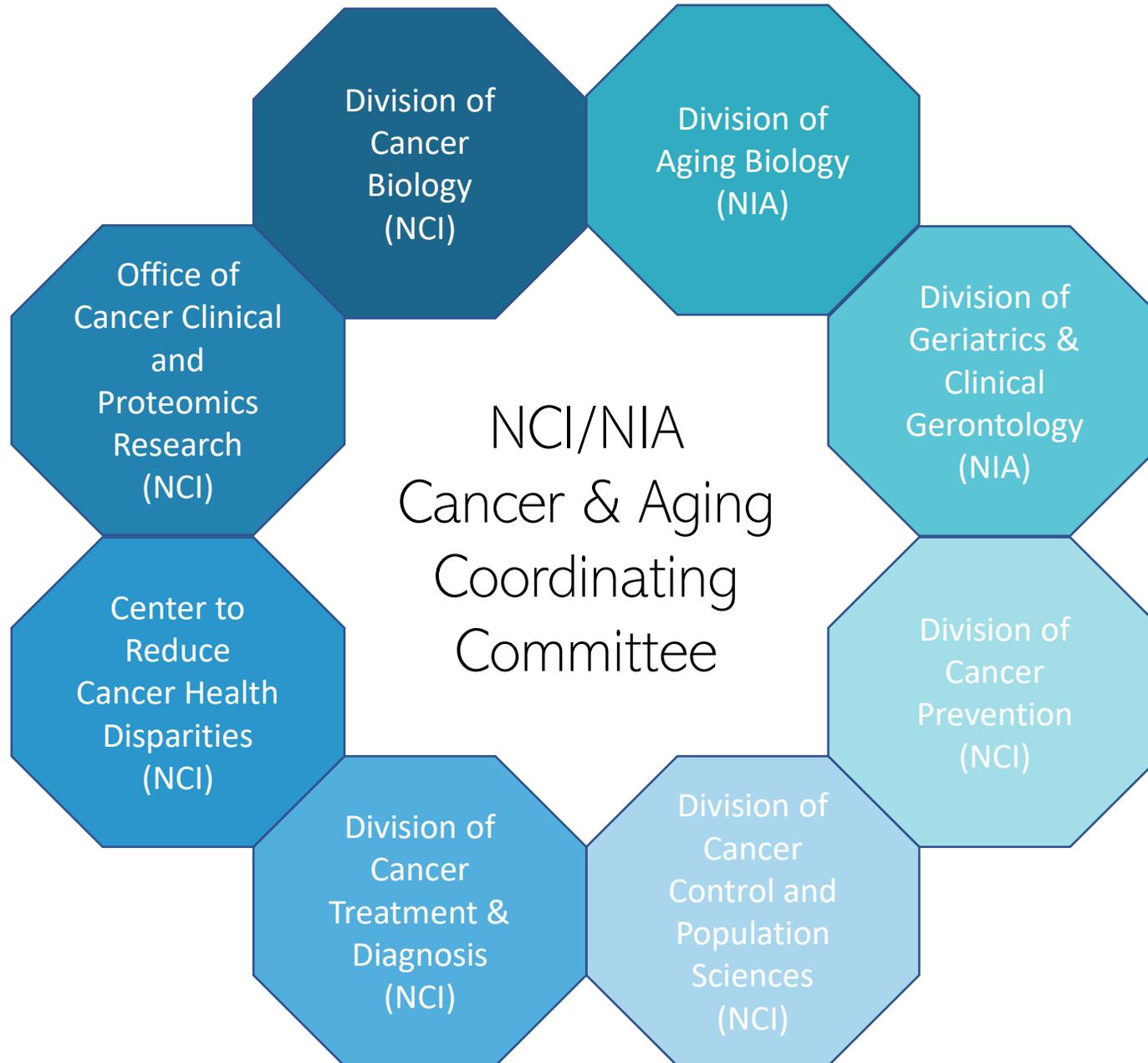


Dr. Monica Bertagnolli, 16<sup>th</sup> NCI Director

# Trans-NCI Cancer & Aging Coordinating Committee (CACCC)

## **Purpose:**

- To integrate and coordinate all cancer and aging extramural program activities by enhancing communication about those efforts, and promoting collaboration, among NCI extramural program staff
- Founded in 2019
- Founding chair: Paige Green (DCCPS)
- Current co-chairs: Lisa Gallicchio (DCCPS), Chamelli Jhappan (DCB)



# Trans-NCI Cancer & Aging Coordinating Committee (CACCC)

## CACCC Goals:

- To coordinate all trans-NCI cancer and aging extramural activities (e.g., meetings, workshops, webinars)
- To promote collaboration by establishing working groups and conducting strategic planning focused on cancer and aging
- To facilitate extramural program interactions, collaborations, and meetings conducted with the National Institute on Aging (NIA)
- To support NCI participation in and establish robust communication with the Trans-NIH GeroScience Interest Group (GSIG) through the designated NCI liaison

# Trans-NCI Cancer & Aging Coordinating Committee (CACC)

## CACC Working Groups:

- Aging and Sex Disparities (Gosia Kaluzinska and Konstantin Salnikow)
- Cancer and Accelerated Aging Biomarkers (Jen Guida)
- Cancer and Comorbidities (Weiwei Chen)
- Health and Aging Trajectories (Gabriela Riscuta and Anil Wali)
- Scientific Coding (Linnia Mayeenuddin)

# Perspectives on Cancer & Aging

ARTI HURRIA MEMORIAL WEBINAR SERIES



**Dr. Arti Hurria**  
1970-2018

## **Building Infrastructure for Cancer and Aging Research**

Supriya Mohile & William Dale

## **Canaries in the Coal Mine: What we can Learn about Aging from Survivors of Childhood Cancer**

Kiri Ness & Monica Gramatges

## **Cancer and Aging: Biological and Phenotypic Measures of Aging**

Luigi Ferrucci & Morgan Levine

## **Geriatric Assessment in Oncology: Yesterday, Today, & Tomorrow**

Hyman Muss & Grant Williams

## **Harnessing the Power of the WHI Life and Longevity after Cancer (WHI-LILAC) Study to Better Understand Cancer and Aging**

Garnet Anderson & Elizabeth Cespedes Feliciano

## **Cancer and Aging: Microenvironmental Impact on Oncogenesis and Immunity**

James DeGregori & Curtis Henry

## **Targeting Aging to Transform Human Health**

Nathan LeBrasseur & Jessica Scott

## **Measuring Patient's Pace of Biological Aging Through Life-Course Research**

Daniel Belsky & Terrie Moffit

## **Cellular Senescence and Cancer Therapy: Mechanisms and Strategies to Improve Health During Survivorship**

Judith Campisi & Marco Demaria

# Research to Understand and Address the Survivorship Needs of Individuals Living with Advanced/Metastatic Cancer

## This RFA is intended to solicit applications proposing:

- 1) Observational studies to understand the trajectory of physical and psychological symptoms, patterns of care, and unmet needs; and/or
- 2) The development and testing of interventions to improve the delivery of comprehensive survivorship care in this group of cancer survivors.

- FOA Number: [RFA-CA-22-027](#)
- Expiration Date: September 30, 2023
- Program Contacts: [Michelle Mollica](#), Ph.D., M.P.H., R.N., O.C.N., [Lisa Gallicchio](#), Ph.D.

# Cannabis and Cannabinoid Use in Adult Cancer Patients During Treatment: Assessing Benefits and Harms (U01 Clinical Trial Not Allowed)

## This RFA is intended to solicit applications proposing:

- Cooperative Agreement (U01) applications that propose prospective research studies to assess the benefits and harms of cannabis and cannabinoid use among adult cancer patients during active treatment. NCI is seeking well-designed prospective cohort studies of cancer patients with solid or hematologic tumors currently receiving treatment. Studies are expected to compare cancer patients who use cannabis/cannabinoids with cancer patients that do not use cannabis and/or cannabinoids.
- FOA Number: [RFA-CA-22-052](#)
- Expiration Date: February 18, 2023
- Program Contacts: [Kelly Filipski](#), Ph.D., M.P.H and [Andrew Freedman](#), Ph.D.

# Understanding the Effects of Cancer and Cancer Treatment on Aging Trajectories and Aging Outcomes

## Funding Opportunity Purpose:

- To solicit investigator-initiated applications that aim to better understand the effects of a cancer diagnosis and subsequent cancer treatment on aging trajectories and aging outcomes.
- FOA Number: [NOT-CA-21-031](#)
- Expiration Date: January 08, 2024
- Program Contacts: [Lisa Gallicchio](#), Ph.D., NCI & [Basil Eldadah](#), M.D., NIA

# Advancing Research to Develop Improved Measures and Methods for Understanding Multimorbidity (Clinical Trial Optional)

## Funding Opportunity Purpose:

- Measurement and methods research to understand and promote primary, secondary, and tertiary prevention of multimorbidity for cancer survivors and the prevention of cancer among those diagnosed with other chronic conditions
- FOA Number: [PAR-20-179](#) (R01)
- Expiration Date: September 08, 2023
- Program Contact: [Bryan Kim](#), Ph.D.

# Identifying Innovative Mechanisms or Interventions that Target Multimorbidity and Its Consequences (Clinical Trial Optional)

## Funding Opportunity Purpose:

- NCI is interested in observational and intervention research to understand and promote primary, secondary, and tertiary prevention of multimorbidity for cancer survivors and the prevention of cancer among those diagnosed with other chronic conditions (e.g., diabetes, hypertension, obesity).
- FOA Number: [PAR-20-180](#) (R01)
- Expiration Date: September 08, 2023
- Program Contact: [Bryan Kim](#), Ph.D.

# Clinical Characterization of Cancer Therapy-induced Adverse Sequelae and Mechanism-based Interventional Strategies

(R01 Clinical Trial Optional)

## Funding Opportunity Purpose:

- Applications should focus on cancer therapy-induced adverse sequelae that persist and become chronic comorbidities or develop as delayed posttreatment effects. These adverse sequelae include, but are not limited to, therapy-induced peripheral neuropathy, neurocognitive impairments, cardiovascular toxicity, pulmonary fibrosis, fatigue, nephrotoxicity, ototoxicity, and various immune system-related AEs.

- FOA Number: [PAR-21-329](#)
- Expiration Date: November 06, 2024
- Program Contacts: [Kelly Filipski](#), Ph.D., M.P.H and [Alexis Bakos](#), Ph.D., M.P.H., R.N.

[\\*Program Announcement with special receipt, referral, and/or review considerations](#)

# Improving Outcomes in Cancer Treatment-Related Adverse Sequelae

## Funding Opportunity Purpose:

- Focus is on mitigating cardiovascular dysfunction while optimizing cancer outcomes by understanding the mechanisms of cancer treatment-related cardiotoxicity and translating the findings to improve risk stratification, early detection, prevention, and management.
- FOA Number: [NOT-CA-22-001](#)
- Expiration Date: November 06, 2024
- Program Contacts: [Nonniekaye Shelburne](#), M.S., C.R.N.P., A.O.C.N., NCI and [Bishow B. Adhikari](#), Ph.D., NHLBI

# Expanding Research in Health Disparities

- **PAR\*: Basic Research in Cancer Health Disparities (Clinical Trial Not Allowed)**
  - Innovative studies designed to investigate biological/genetic bases of cancer health disparities, such as
    - Mechanistic studies of biological factors associated with cancer health disparities
    - Development and testing of new methodologies and models
    - Secondary data analyses
- FOA Number: [PAR-21-322](#) (R01), [PAR-21-323](#) (R21), [PAR-21-324](#) (R03)
- Expiration Date: September 8, 2024
- Program Contacts: [Anu Sharman](#), Ph.D., [Asad Umar](#), D.V.M., Ph.D., [Tiffany Wallace](#), Ph.D.

# Expanding Research in Health Disparities

- **PAR\*: Health Care Models for Persons with Multiple Chronic Conditions from Populations that Experience Health Disparities: Advancing Health Care towards Health Equity (R01 - Clinical Trials Optional)**
  - To support innovative, multidisciplinary, and multi-level and/or multi-component research through existing or newly proposed health care models designed to optimize the care of persons with multiple chronic conditions from U.S. populations that experience health disparities through the adaption, integration, and implementation of evidence-based or recommended guidelines of care for different and coexisting chronic conditions with a holistic perspective, and focused on attaining optimal health outcomes.
- FOA Number: [PAR-22-092](#)
- Expiration Date: September 8, 2024
- Program Contacts: [Priscilla Novak](#), Ph.D., NIA, [Sallie Weaver](#), Ph.D., M.H.S., NCI

# Expanding Research in Health Disparities

- **Notice of NCI Participation in PAR-22-064, "Patient-Clinician Relationship: Improving Health Outcomes in Populations that Experience Health Care Disparities (R01 Clinical Trial Optional)"**
  - To support innovative multi-disciplinary and multi-level (e.g., patient, clinician, interpersonal, health care system, community) research designed to understand how optimizing patient-clinician communication and relationship affects health care outcomes in patients from populations with health care disparities.
- FOA Number: [NOT-CA-22-048](#) / [PAR-22-064](#)
- Expiration Date: January 08, 2025
- Program Contacts: [Sallie J. Weaver](#), Ph.D., M.H.S., [Amanda Acevedo](#), Ph.D., [Diane St. Germain](#), R.N., M.S., C.R.N.P.

# Expanding Research in Health Disparities

- **Risk and Protective Factors of Family Health and Family Level Interventions (R01 - Clinical Trial Optional)**

- The purpose of this initiative is to advance the science of minority health and health disparities by supporting research on family health and well-being and resilience. The NIMHD Research Framework recognizes family health, family well-being, and family resilience as critically important areas of research to decrease disparities and promote equity.

- FOA Number: [PAR-21-358](#)
- Expiration Date: May 08, 2025
- Program Contacts: [Rebecca Ferrer](#), Ph.D., [Anil Wali](#), Ph.D.

# Selected Cancer and Aging Extramural Program Points of Contact

National Cancer Institute	Division of Cancer Biology	<a href="#">Chamelli Jhappan</a>	<a href="mailto:jhappanc@mail.nih.gov">jhappanc@mail.nih.gov</a>
		<a href="#">Konstantin Salnikow</a>	<a href="mailto:salnikok@mail.nih.gov">salnikok@mail.nih.gov</a>
	Division of Cancer Control and Population Sciences	<a href="#">Lisa Gallicchio</a>	<a href="mailto:lisa.gallicchio@nih.gov">lisa.gallicchio@nih.gov</a>
		<a href="#">Paige Green</a>	<a href="mailto:paige.green@nih.gov">paige.green@nih.gov</a>
		<a href="#">Jennifer Guida</a>	<a href="mailto:jennifer.guida@nih.gov">jennifer.guida@nih.gov</a>
	Division of Cancer Prevention	<a href="#">Gabriela Riscuta</a>	<a href="mailto:gabriela.riscuta@nih.gov">gabriela.riscuta@nih.gov</a>
		<a href="#">Diane St. Germain</a>	<a href="mailto:dstgermain@mail.nih.gov">dstgermain@mail.nih.gov</a>
		<a href="#">Matthew Young</a>	<a href="mailto:matthew.young@nih.gov">matthew.young@nih.gov</a>
	Division of Cancer Treatment and Diagnosis	<a href="#">Weiwei Chen</a>	<a href="mailto:weiwei.chen@nih.gov">weiwei.chen@nih.gov</a>
		<a href="#">Richard Little</a>	<a href="mailto:little@mail.nih.gov">little@mail.nih.gov</a>
		<a href="#">Ana I. Robles</a>	<a href="mailto:roblesa@intra.nci.nih.gov">roblesa@intra.nci.nih.gov</a>
	Center to Reduce Cancer Health Disparities	<a href="#">Nelson Aguila</a>	<a href="mailto:aguilah@mail.nih.gov">aguilah@mail.nih.gov</a>
		<a href="#">Anil Wali</a>	<a href="mailto:walia@mail.nih.gov">walia@mail.nih.gov</a>
National Institute on Aging	Division of Geriatrics and Clinical Gerontology	<a href="#">Basil Eldadah</a>	<a href="mailto:eldadahb@mail.nih.gov">eldadahb@mail.nih.gov</a>
	Division of Aging Biology	<a href="#">Max Guo</a>	<a href="mailto:max.guo@nih.gov">max.guo@nih.gov</a>



**NATIONAL  
CANCER  
INSTITUTE**

[www.cancer.gov](http://www.cancer.gov)

[www.cancer.gov/espanol](http://www.cancer.gov/espanol)

# Working with NIA and beyond

Basil Eldadah, MD, PhD

Chief, Geriatrics Branch

Division of Geriatrics and Clinical Gerontology

National Institute on Aging

CARG Virtual Conference

February 15, 2023

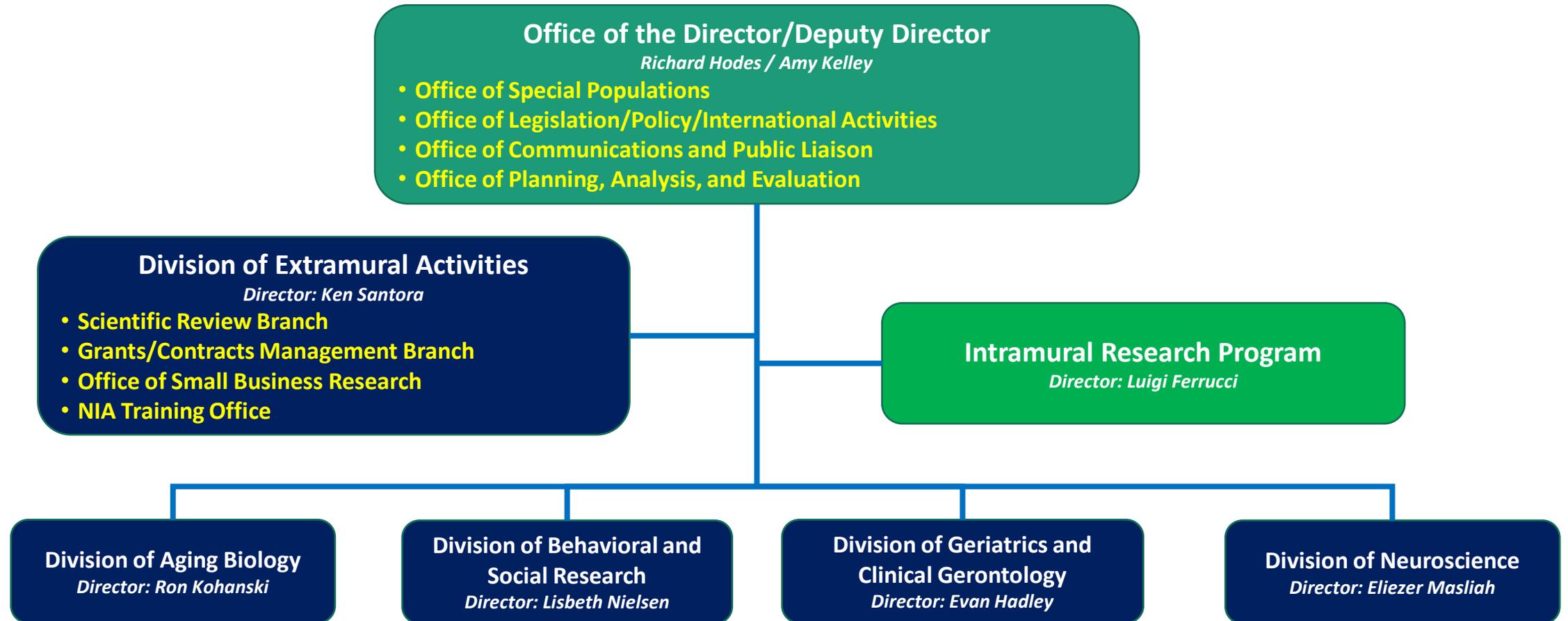
# NIA Mission

- Support and conduct genetic, biological, clinical, behavioral, social, and economic research on aging.
- Foster the development of research and clinician scientists in aging.
- Provide research resources.
- Disseminate information about aging and advances in research to the public, health care professionals, and the scientific community, among a variety of audiences.

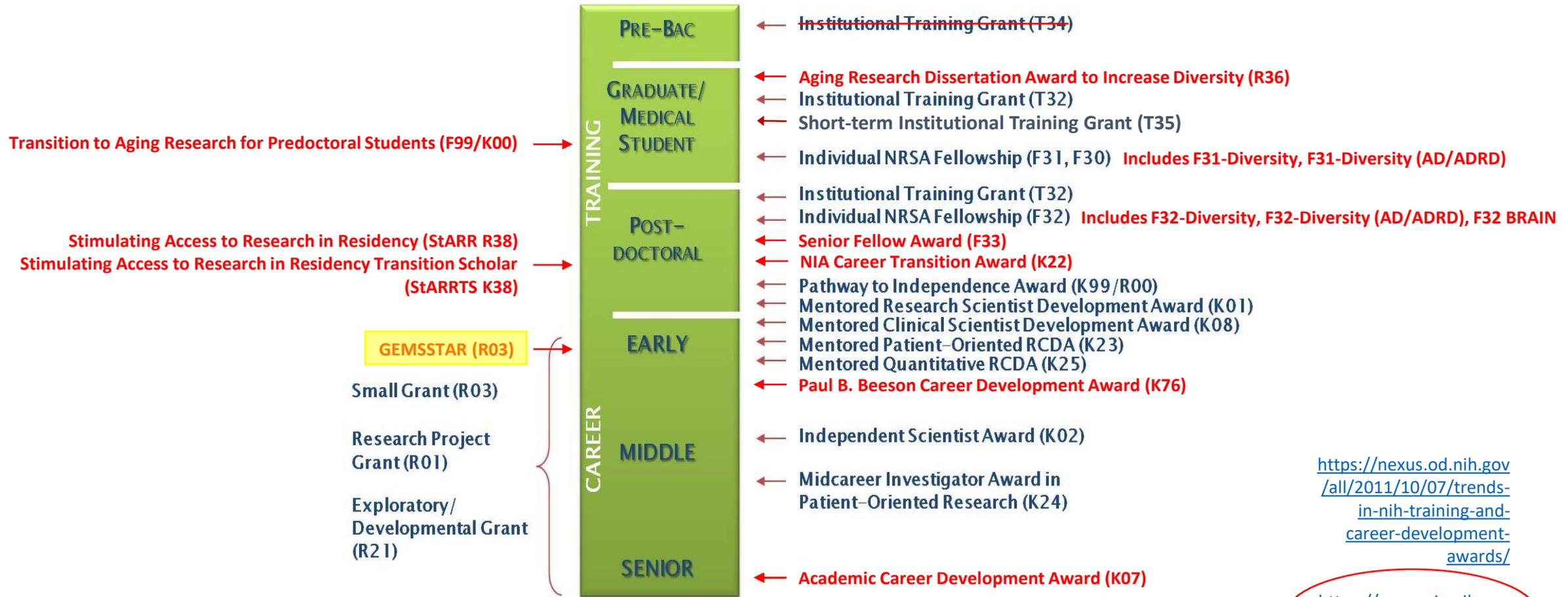


<https://www.nia.nih.gov/about/aging-strategic-directions-research>

# NIA Organization



# NIA Training, Fellowship, and Career Development Awards



Graphic represents a small sample of NIH funding mechanisms available.

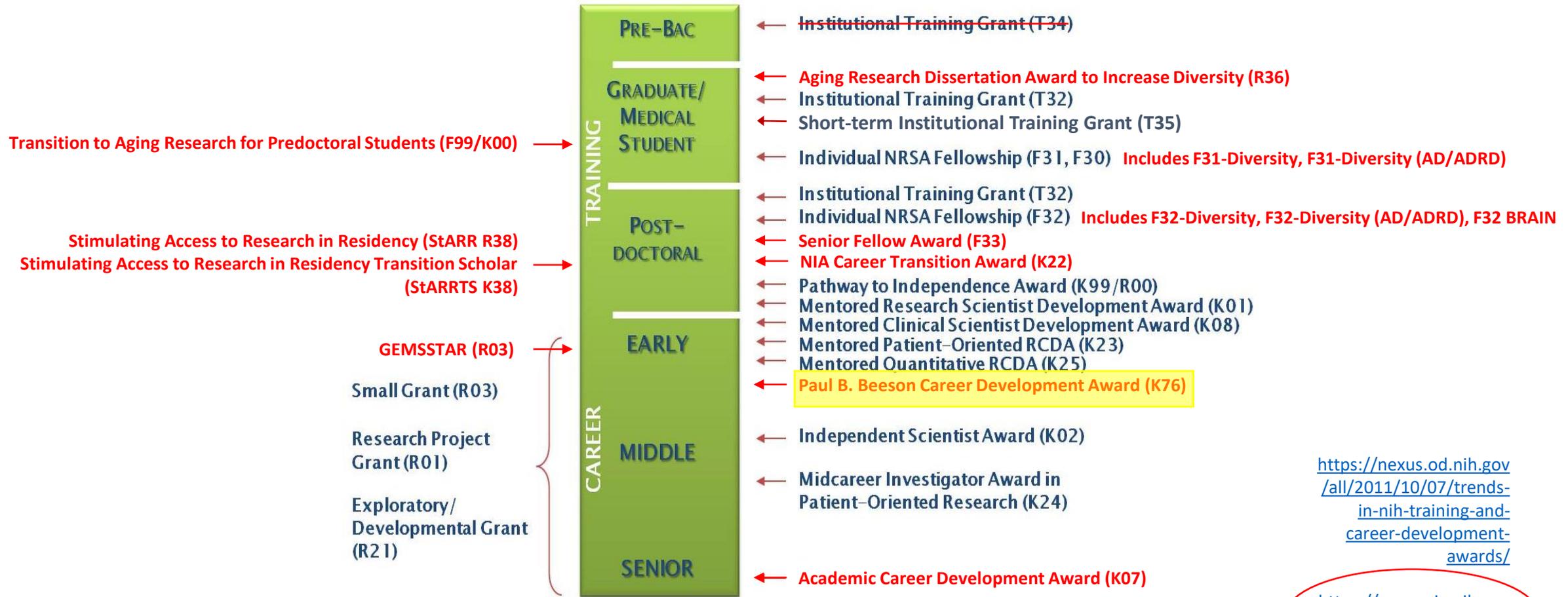
<https://nexus.od.nih.gov/all/2011/10/07/trends-in-nih-training-and-career-development-awards/>

<https://www.nia.nih.gov/research/training>

# Grants for Early Medical/Surgical Specialists' Transition to Aging Research (GEMSSTAR)

- An NIA “pre-K” award program for junior faculty physicians or dentists interested in a research career bridging their specialty and aging
- R03 mechanism (\$100,000/y DC for 2 years) plus evidence of a supportive research career environment (Professional Development Plan)
- Regular GEMSSTAR scholar conferences
- Yearly announcement with receipt date typically in Fall
- Most recent competition: [RFA-AG-23-031](#)

# NIA Training, Fellowship, and Career Development Awards



<https://nexus.od.nih.gov/all/2011/10/07/trends-in-nih-training-and-career-development-awards/>

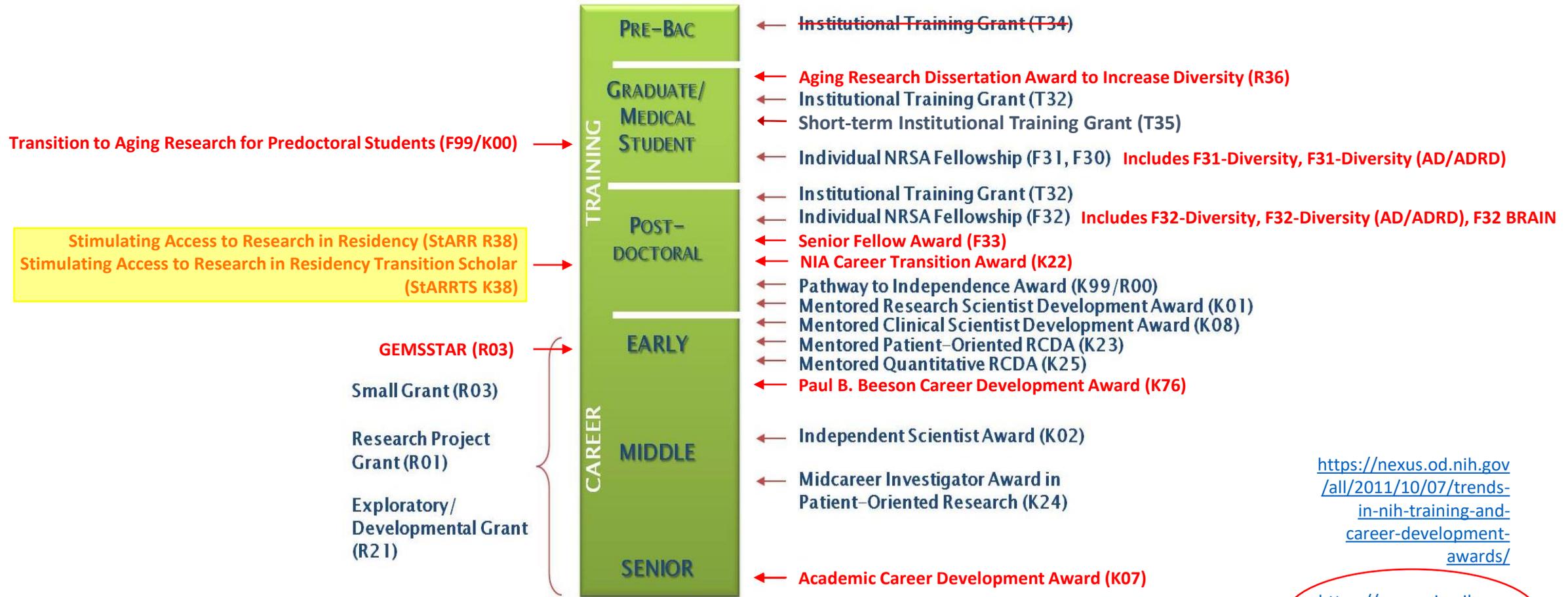
<https://www.nia.nih.gov/research/training>

Graphic represents a small sample of NIH funding mechanisms available.

# Paul B. Beeson Emerging Leaders Career Development Award in Aging (K76)

- [RFA-AG-21-021](#) (clinical trial) and [RFA-AG-21-020](#) (no clinical trial)
- Eligibility
  - Early-Stage Investigator status (no R01-type funding and within 10 years of terminal degree) at time of award
  - Current/prior research support expected
  - Research or clinical doctoral degree (e.g., PhD, MD, DO, DMD, DDS, OD, DC, PharmD, ND, DVM)
  - Prior evidence of leadership in clinical duties or research activities
- Up to \$225,000/y (direct costs)
- Annual Beeson scholars meeting

# NIA Training, Fellowship, and Career Development Awards



Graphic represents a small sample of NIH funding mechanisms available.

<https://nexus.od.nih.gov/all/2011/10/07/trends-in-nih-training-and-career-development-awards/>

<https://www.nia.nih.gov/research/training>

## Stimulating Access to Research in Residency (StARR) (R38)

## Stimulating Access to Research in Residency Transition Scholar (StARRTS) (K38)

- [RFA-HL-23-006](#): Stimulating Access to Research in Residency (StARR) (R38)
  - Institutional awards to support 1-2 years of research in clinical residency (physicians, dentists, or veterinarians)
  - Support for 2-3 residents at 80% of PGY salary + research costs
  - Regular investigators meetings
  - Yearly receipt dates on March 15 in 2022, 2023, and 2024
  - Number and scope of awards vary by participating ICs (NHLBI, NCI, NIAID, NIA)
- [RFA-HL-23-007](#): Limited Competition: Stimulating Access to Research in Residency Transition Scholar (StARRTS) (K38)
  - Individual mentored awards to StARR residents for continued research and career development support in clinical fellowship or early faculty position
  - 1-2 year support for 75% of base PGY salary (fellows) or up to 50% of base salary  $\leq$  \$60k/y (early career faculty) +  $\leq$  \$20k/y research costs +  $\leq$  \$3 k/y travel costs
  - Yearly receipt dates on October 13, 2022; October 13, 2023; and October 11, 2024
  - Number and scope of awards vary by participating ICs (NHLBI, NCI, NIAID, NIA)
    - *NIA supports only fellowship through this award; early career faculty are supported through GEMSSTAR*

## A National Platform to Advance Transdisciplinary Aging Research



The Clinician - Scientists Transdisciplinary Aging Research (Clin-STAR) Coordinating Center provides a national platform for clinicians focusing their careers on aging research in order to improve patient-centered care for older adults across specialties and disciplines.

### Clin-STAR Coordinating Center initiatives include:

- Clin-STAR Database
- Pilot Grants
- Outreach Funds
- Webinars
- Mentoring & Collaboration:
  - Career and Research Advice Opportunities
  - Special Interest Groups
  - Office Hours
  - Peer Support
- Career, Mentoring and Research Resources



## Join the "Who's Who" in Aging Research

Joining is free and without any commitments. The **Clin-STAR Database** features unique functions to search and visualize how the broad aging research community is connected with clinician-investigators from any discipline or level of seniority, starting as early as medical students. The database allows users to easily identify and contact investigators for transdisciplinary research collaborations and mentoring opportunities.

### NOW AVAILABLE: The Clin-STAR Database!

- Use the site to browse or search information on:
- **RESEARCHERS** - Filter by discipline, research areas, interest in mentoring, and more!
  - **INSTITUTIONS** - Listing of institutions represented in the Clin-STAR Database
  - **PUBLICATIONS** - Publications by Clin-STAR Database members
  - **FUNDED GRANTS** - Grants received by Clin-STAR Database members
  - **CLIN-STAR NETWORK** - Two interactive graphics display connections by disciplines, publications, and research areas



Get started on the Clin-STAR Database here!

<https://clin-star.org/>



# AgingResearch Biobank

- Establishment: January 2019
- Continues to expand its collections of biospecimen and associated data to:
  - Better serve the scientific community
  - Provide a wide array of research opportunities
  - Advance science and improve the health of older adults
- Study collections currently available:
  - Biospecimens and related data: LIFE, SWAN, SOF, MrOS, T-trials, MOST, ENRGISE, CALERIE, SAGES
  - Data: STRIDE
- For further information please visit <https://agingresearchbiobank.nia.nih.gov/> or contact [Rosaly.correa-de-araujo@nih.gov](mailto:Rosaly.correa-de-araujo@nih.gov)

[Home](#) / [Research & Funding](#)

## Research Resources

Use the NIA Research Resources database to find NIA-supported scientific resources, datasets, informatics resources, and more. Search by keyword, resource type, or NIA Division or IRP.

Keywords

Resource Type

Divisions

### Health Databases

#### Advanced Cognitive Training for Independent and Vital Elderly (ACTIVE)

With 2,832 participants, the [ACTIVE Study](#)<sup>®</sup> is the largest study on cognitive training ever performed. Funded by the National Institutes of Health and led by researchers at the University of Alabama at Birmingham, the National Institute on Aging, the Indiana University School of Medicine, Penn State University, and others, the ACTIVE study proves that healthy older adults can make significant cognitive improvements with

# NIA Centers Programs

Office of the Director/Deputy Director

Division of Extramural Activities

Intramural Research Program

Division of Aging Biology

Division of Behavioral and Social Research

Division of Geriatrics and Clinical Gerontology

Division of Neuroscience

[Nathan Shock Centers of Excellence in the Basic Biology of Aging](#) (8)

- [Centers on the Demography and Economics of Aging](#) (15)
- [Resource Centers for Minority Aging Research \(RCMAR\)](#) (18)
- [Roybal Centers for Translational Research on Aging](#) (15)
- [Artificial Intelligence and Technology Collaboratories for Aging Research](#) (3)

[Claude D. Pepper Older Americans Independence Centers](#) (15)

[Alzheimer's Disease Research Centers](#) (37)



## About the RCCN

The problems associated with an aging society transcend the boundaries of any specific discipline and play out across multiple biologic and societal domains ranging from individual cells, to organs and organ systems, to persons, to communities, to national and world economies. The six National Institute on Aging (NIA) Center programs address important topics in aging but typically from a specific disciplinary perspective.

The **objective of the Research Centers Coordinating Network (RCCN)** is to initiate new cross-disciplinary collaborative networks that bring together key thought leaders from each of the six NIA center programs to align approaches across programs that will uncover synergies and insights that lead to novel collaborations.

The RCCN website supports linkages between the six NIA center programs and shares center-related resources, funding and meetings opportunities, and webinars.

Managed by [Wake Forest School of Medicine](#) and the [American Federation for Aging Research \(AFAR\)](#), the RCCN will spur multi-disciplinary efforts in aging research across the centers through five complementary strategies: conferences, pilot programs, early career faculty education, web-based resource identification tools, and fundraising/proposal development.



## RCCN Research Compass:

The Research Compass points you to WHAT topics are being studied WHERE among the NIA Supported Research Centers.

This tool cross-references centers publications and Medline (MeSH) search terms for publications reported to PubMed from February 2018 through February 2023.

The Center Programs are:

Alzheimer's Disease Research Centers

Centers on the Demography and Economics of Aging

Claude D. Pepper Older Americans Independence Centers (OAICs)

Nathan Shock Centers of Excellence in the Basic Biology of Aging

Resource Centers for Minority Aging Research (RCMAR)

Royal Centers for Translational Research on Aging

Artificial Intelligence and Technology Collaboratories (AITC) for Aging Research

RESET FORM

Selections

Output

Summary Table

Getting Started:

**1** Search for keywords you want to target

Search for MeSH terms to target

Refine MeSH terms (Remove Unwanted Terms)

Filter by Keyword...

Limit results to records including these keywords

Refine limiting MeSH terms (Remove Unwanted Terms)

Refine Limit Selection

Filter by Keyword...

**2** Select NIA sponsored programs to include (default is all programs)

Return all Programs

Select institutions to include (default is all institutions)

Return all Institutions

SUBMIT

# Some other NIA-supported networks



<https://gearnetwork.org/>



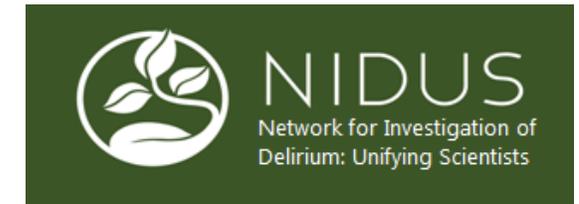
<https://theaginginitiative.wordpress.com/>



<https://impactcollaboratory.org/>



<https://www.mycarg.org/>



<https://deliriumnetwork.org/>



US Deprescribing Research Network

<https://deprescribingresearch.org/>

# NIA Health Disparities Research Framework



PRIORITY POPULATIONS +			
Environmental	Sociocultural	Behavioral	Biological
<u>Geographical and Political Factors</u>	<u>Cultural Factors</u>	<u>Coping Factors</u>	<u>Physiological Indicators</u>
<u>Socioeconomic Factors</u>	<u>Social Factors</u>	<u>Psychological Risk/Resilience</u>	<u>Genetic Stability</u>
<u>Health Care</u>	<u>Psychological Factors</u>	<u>Health Behaviors</u>	<u>Cellular Function and Communication</u>
LIFECOURSE PERSPECTIVE +			

# The Butler-Williams Scholars Program

*For junior faculty and researchers new to the field of aging*



**Dates:** August 23-25, 2023

**Location:** To be held virtually

**Eligibility:** Doctoral degree (e.g., PhD, DrPH, MD, etc.)

**To apply for the 2023 cohort (by April 21, 2023):**

<https://www.nia.nih.gov/form/bw-scholars-23>

**For more details:**

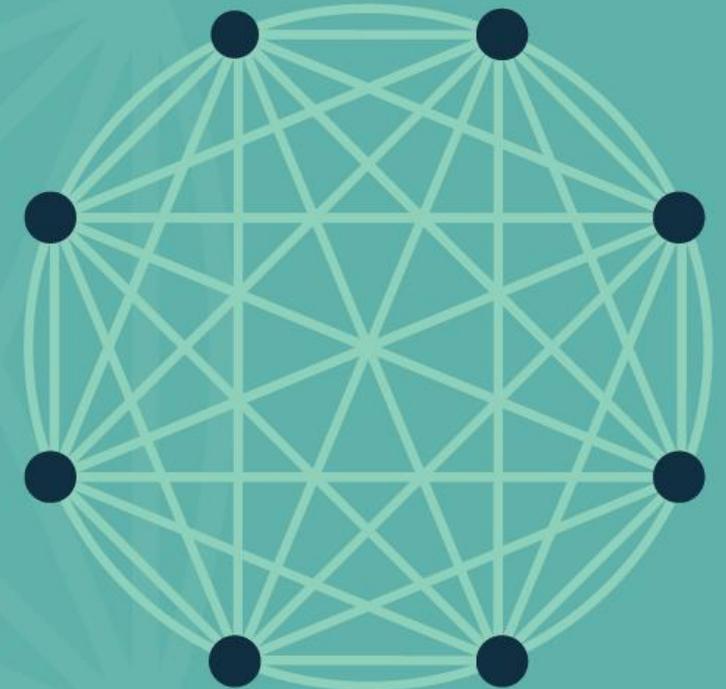
<https://www.nia.nih.gov/research/blog/2023/01/butler-williams-scholars-program-one-kind-opportunity-grow-your-career>

# Save the Date: 2023 Geroscience Summit

THE FOURTH SUMMIT

## Geroscience for the Next Generation

APRIL 24 - 26, 2023  
NIH CAMPUS, BETHESDA, MD



<https://www.nia.nih.gov/2023-fourth-geroscience-summit>

# Research Infrastructure Development

[PAR-23-053](#): “Research Infrastructure Development for Interdisciplinary Aging Studies” (R61/R33)

[PAR-23-054](#): “Advanced-Stage Development and Utilization of Research Infrastructure for Interdisciplinary Aging Studies” (R33)

- To support research infrastructure to advance the science of aging in areas requiring interdisciplinary partnerships or collaborations
- Intended to support a research platform rather than direct hypothesis-driven research
- Expectation to develop new knowledge, tools, or other scientific resources and results

# Example platform activities

- Methods development
- Development of data resources
- Pilot project support
- Meetings
- Dissemination

**SUSTAINABLE**

**SERVES A COMMUNITY**

# NOT-AG-22-048: Advancing the Science of Geriatric Palliative Care

- Foci include
  - relief of symptoms and suffering
  - communication of prognosis and treatment options in the context of patients' goals
  - coordination of care within and across healthcare settings
- Participating IC's: NIA, NCI, NINR, NHLBI, NIMHD, ORWH

# We're Hiring!

**We're looking for talented scientists with a health-related doctoral degree (e.g., MD, PhD, DSc) to serve as program officers in our Geriatrics Branch and Clinical Gerontology Branch.**

If interested, please contact:

Basil Eldadah, MD, PhD  
Chief, Geriatrics Branch  
DGCG  
[Basil.Eldadah@nih.gov](mailto:Basil.Eldadah@nih.gov)

Chhanda Dutta, PhD  
Chief, Clinical Gerontology Branch  
DGCG  
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# NCI Community Oncology Research Network: Opportunities for Engagement

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Division of Cancer Prevention  
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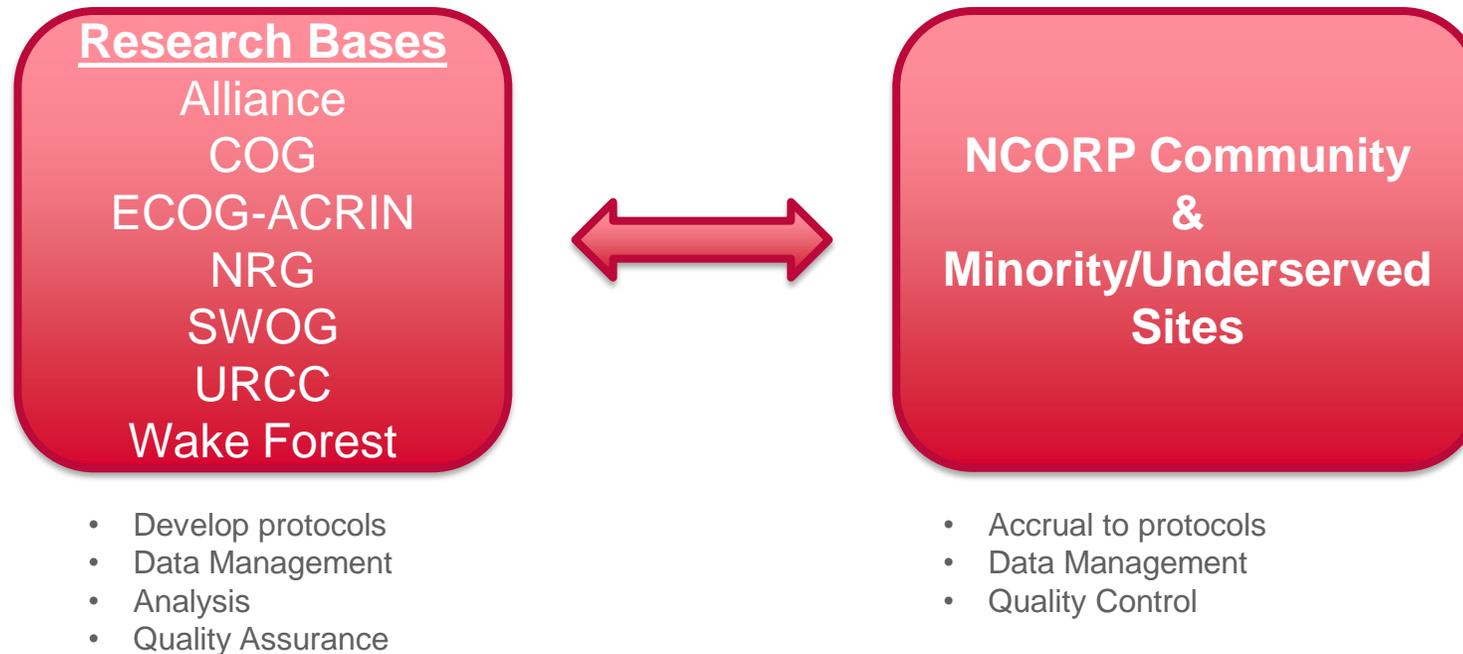
# Objectives

1. *Provide an overview of NCORP Program*
2. *Describe efforts to increase accrual of older adults to NCI clinical trials*
3. *Describe broadening trial eligibility initiative*

# The NCI Community Oncology Research Program (NCORP)

- The NCI Community Oncology Research Program (NCORP) is a national network that brings cancer clinical trials and care delivery studies to people in their own communities.
- Is the primary source of accrual to NCI cancer control, symptom management trials, and to health-related quality of life trials that are embedded into NCTN treatment trials.
- Goal is to generate a broadly applicable evidence base that contributes to improved patient outcomes and reduction in cancer disparities.

# NCORP Structure



# NCORP Network Attributes

- People:

- 4,739 Physician Investigators
  - 1,036 Non-Physician Investigators
  - 5,444 Research Staff (Associate/Associate Plus)
- 11 Health Care Systems
    - Advocate/Aurora, Baptist, CommonSpirit Health System (formerly Catholic Health Initiatives), Essentia, Geisinger, Kaiser Permanente, MaineHealth, Nemours, Northwell Health, Prisma, Sanford

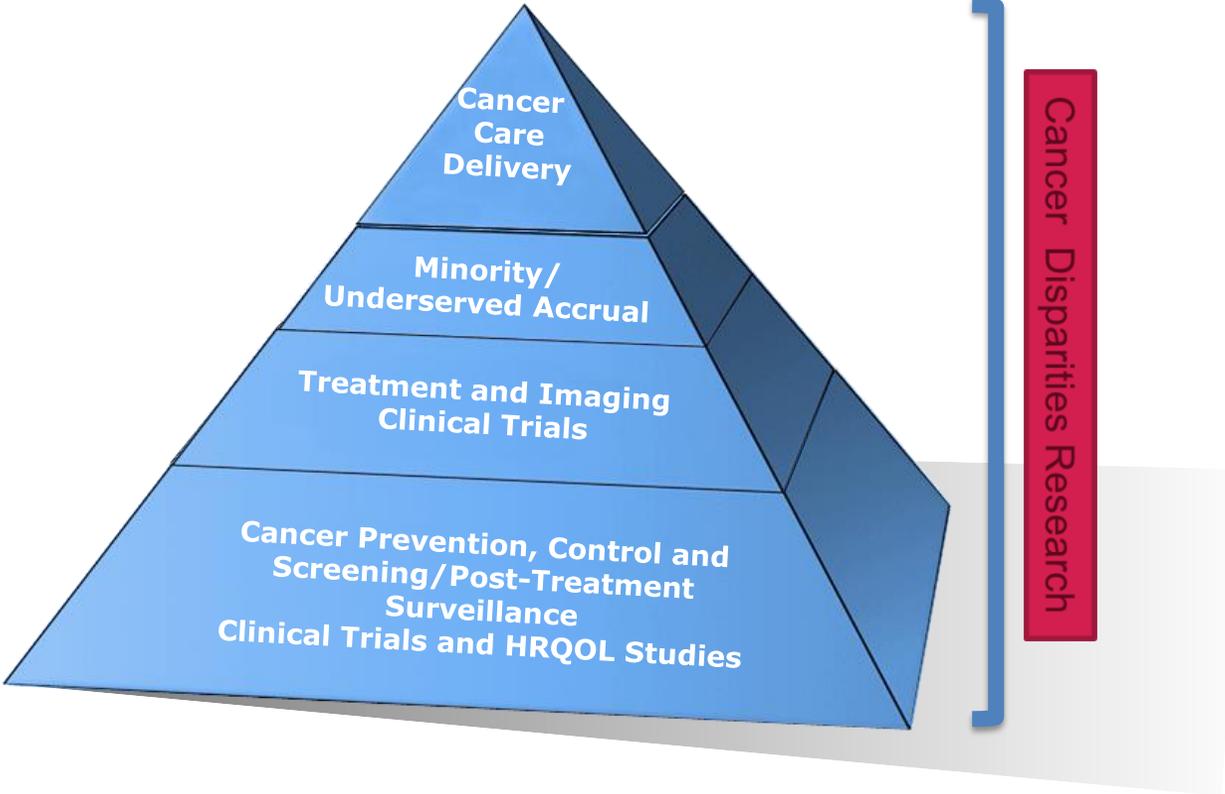


- 930 Affiliates and Sub-Affiliates

- Non-Academic Hospitals – 336
- Academic Hospitals – 68
- Community Physician Practice – 271
- Academic Physician Practice - 19
- Free Standing Oncology Clinic – 130
- VA Hospital – 7
- Government Facility - 3
- Military – 3
- NCI Cancer Center – 3
- Administrative Clinical – 5
- Undesignated - 85

July 15, 2022

# NCORP Research Priorities



# Using NCORP's Network to Conduct Research

- Research must be conducted via Research Base (RB) sponsorship
- Contact NCORP staff at [ncorp@mail.nih.gov](mailto:ncorp@mail.nih.gov)
  - Determine if within scope of program
  - Decide which RB best suited to support proposed research
  - Researcher contact RB to secure sponsorship
  - RB to notify NCI if plan to submit for federal (R01, etc.) or non-federal funding support
    - Study chair, RB and NCI PD discuss aims, population, rationale/feasibility, possible overlap, confirm scope is appropriate, timeline/budget considerations, NCORP site interest

## Older Adult Trials Supported in the NCORP Network

Dates	Protocol Number	Title	Status	Sample Size
5/15/14 – 3/15/19	URCC-13059	A Geriatric Assessment Intervention for Patients Aged 70 and Over Receiving Chemotherapy or Similar Agents for Advanced Cancer: Reducing Toxicity in Older Adults	Closed to Accrual	733
6/26/14- 8/15/17	URCC-13070	Improving Communication for Cancer Treatment: Addressing Concerns of Older Cancer Patients and Caregivers	Closed to Accrual	546
8/15/18- 3/3/20	A171601	A Phase II Trial Assessing the Tolerability of Palbociclib in Combination with Letrozole or Fulvestrant in Patients Aged 70 and Older with Estrogen Receptor-Positive, HER2-Negative Metastatic Breast Cancer	Closed to Accrual	93
8/16/19-	WF-1806	Myopenia and Mechanisms of Chemotherapy Toxicity in Older Adults with Colorectal Cancer: the M&M Study	Active	300
10/1/20-	A171901	Older Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer Patients (>= 70 Years of Age) Treated with First-Line MK-3475 (Pembrolizumab)+/- Chemotherapy (Oncologist's/Patient's Choice)	Active	100
10/8/21-	URCC-19178	Optimizing Functional Outcomes of Older Cancer Survivors After Chemotherapy	Active	1560

## **Engaging Older Adults in the NCI Clinical Trials Network: *Challenges and Opportunities***

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**Virtual Event • April 26-27, 2021**



Chairs: Diane St. Germain (NCI)  
Supriya Mohile (Wilmot Cancer Institute;  
CARG)

# NCI Meeting Objectives/Goals

- **Identify modifiable barriers** to participation of older adult patients in cancer clinical trials, with an emphasis on clinician bias, and develop actionable interventions to address them.
- **Engage patients to enhance our understanding of the barriers** to enrollment of older adults to clinical trials and discuss ways to overcome these barriers.
- **Identify patient needs and concerns** and develop and implement interventions to address those concerns.
- Build consensus around the best approaches and measures to **define “fitness”/frailty** in clinical research.
- Develop a broader research plan to **guide the implementation of geriatric assessments** in future NCI-supported clinical trials to address gaps in research.

# Working Groups

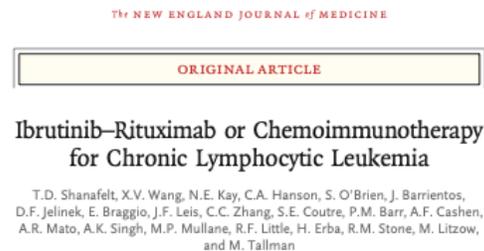
Study Design	Infrastructure	Stakeholders
<p>Consider trial designs that promote enrollment of older adults (e.g. cohort designs, extended cohorts, parallel cohorts, less fit older adults), stratification by vulnerability</p>	<p>Development of a roadmap from conceptualization of research question to dissemination of results</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Necessary resources</li> <li>• Consideration of the older adult throughout the process</li> </ul>	<p>Identify modifiable accrual barriers from each stakeholder perspective</p>
<p>Use of geriatric assessment in clinical trials: identify research gaps</p>	<p>Infrastructure needs to perform comprehensive geriatric assessment</p>	<p>Identify interventions that can address the identified barriers to enhance accrual of older adults to NCI sponsored clinical trials</p>
<p>Identify best approach and measures to define fitness/frailty to enroll in a clinical trial</p>	<p>Use of technology/telehealth to engage older adults in clinical research</p>	<p>Address clinician biases toward enrolling older adults to clinical trials</p> <p>Identify patient needs and concerns and develop interventions to address</p>

# Study Design Recommendations

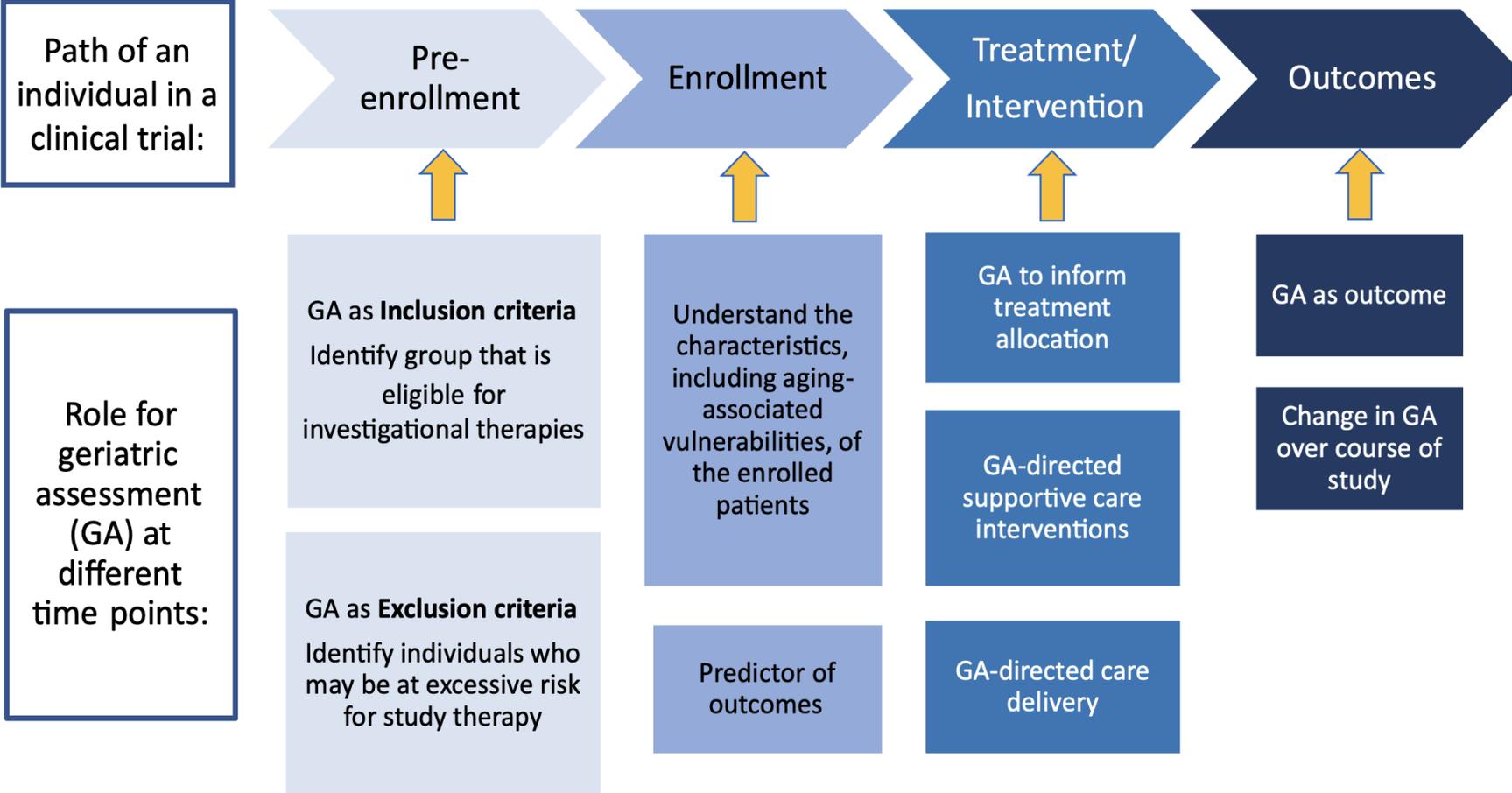
- Prioritize trial designs that have been shown to be effective at increasing accrual of older adults with cancer across heterogeneity of fitness levels (i.e. older adult specific trials)
- Emphasize under-utilized trial designs that have potential for augmenting accrual of older adults (i.e. parallel cohort)
- Incorporate pragmatic design elements (see PRECIS, e.g., relaxing eligibility requirements) for any trial
- Consider the role of geriatric assessment measures for capturing important information for any trial that is intended to enroll older adults

# Example of Trial designs for Older Adults

- Definitive evaluation of novel therapeutics in CLL
  - Does treatment with ibrutinib improve PFS compared to standard cytotoxic chemotherapy?
  - Need for separate trials for older and younger patients—why?
    - The standard control treatment may be different for older patients
    - Accrual rates differ by age group
    - Ibrutinib toxicity may be different by age group



# Geriatric Assessment



Magnuson et al. J Natl Cancer Inst Monogr (2022); 2022, 60

# 4 key Recommendations to Strengthen Infrastructure



01

## **CENTRALIZE**

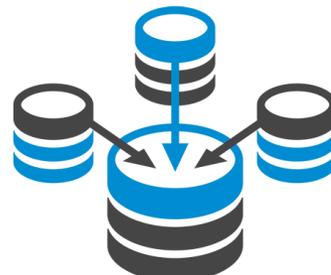
Resources and  
Expertise



02

## **TRAIN**

Clinical  
Research Staff



03

## **DEVELOP**

Common Data  
Elements



04

## **EVALUATE**

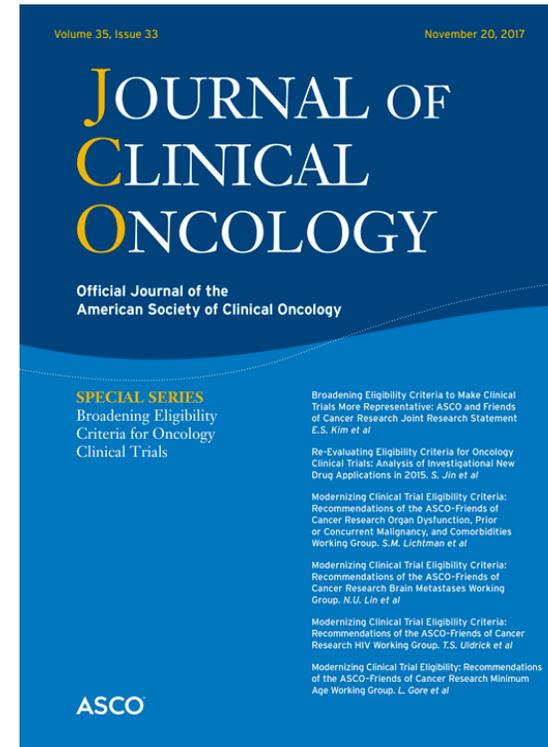
What works and  
what doesn't

# Background: ASCO-Friends Eligibility Criteria Initiative

**2017:** ASCO-Friends publish broadened eligibility criteria to include patients with:

- Brain metastases
- Prior and concurrent malignancies
- HIV infection
- Organ dysfunction, and
- Patients younger than age 18 years

**2018:** NCI's Cancer Therapy Evaluation Program (CTEP) incorporates recommendations into protocol template for use in CTEP-supported trials



Kim, ES, et al. J Clin Oncol 2017

# ASCO-Friends Recommendations 2021

- ASCO-Friends leadership group appointed multi-stakeholder working groups to propose recommendations for more inclusive eligibility criteria in these areas:
  - Washout periods
  - Concomitant medications
  - Prior therapies, including type and number
  - Laboratory reference ranges and test intervals
  - Performance status
  
- Kim, ES, et al, Continuing to Broaden Eligibility Criteria to Make Clinical Trials More Representative and Inclusive: ASCO–Friends of Cancer Research Joint Research Statement, Clin Cancer Res, Feb. 2021. [PMID: 33563632](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/33563632/)

# CTEP Pilot to Prospectively Broaden Eligibility Criteria in Clinical Trials

**Goal:** CTEP Protocol Review Committee to conduct focused reviews of eligibility criteria (EC) and compare to ASCO/Friends EC and NCI protocol template language in NCTN and ETCTN protocols to further expand EC.

## Pilot Implementation:

- Study teams will need to provide scientific and/or clinical rationale for protocols that have EC restricted and NCI will review.
- CTEP Project Managers will review and track EC in protocols prospectively.
- Pilot began January 2022, ASCO/Friends further expanded EC



The screenshot shows the National Cancer Institute (NIH) website for the CTEP (Cancer Therapy Evaluation Program). The header includes the NIH logo, 'NATIONAL CANCER INSTITUTE', and 'DCTD Division of Cancer Treatment & Diagnosis'. A search bar is present. The main navigation bar lists: Home, Investigator Resources, Protocol Development, Industry Collaborations, Initiatives / Programs, More Links, and About CTEP. The 'Protocol Development' section is active, showing a sidebar with links like 'Adverse Events/CTCAE', 'Agent/Drug Management', 'Amendments', 'Ancillary/Correlative and Biomarker Studies', 'CDE/Data Policies/CDUS/DMU', 'Informed Consent', 'LOIs/Concepts', and 'Monitoring'. The main content area is titled 'Protocol Templates and Guidelines' and 'Broadening / Modernizing Eligibility Criteria', with two bullet points: 'CTEP Memo- Broadened Eligibility Criteria Initiative' and 'CTEP Broadened Eligibility Criteria Guidance'. A 'Last Updated: 02/11/22' timestamp is visible.

[https://ctep.cancer.gov/protocolDevelopment/templates\\_applications.htm](https://ctep.cancer.gov/protocolDevelopment/templates_applications.htm)



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