CTSA Academic Consortium

A Portal for Drug Repositioning

What is CTSA?

A national consortium, funded through Clinical and Translational Science Awards (CTSAs), is transforming how clinical and translational research is conducted, ultimately enabling researchers to provide new treatments more efficiently and quickly to patients.

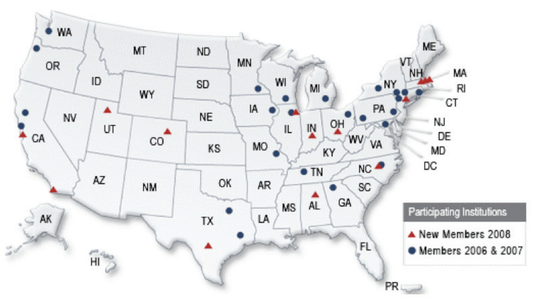
Now comprising 38 academic health centers in 23 states (including 14 centers added in May 2008), the consortium ultimately will link about 60 institutions together to energize the discipline of clinical and translational science. The new program draws on NIH's earlier initiatives to re-engineer the clinical research enterprise, one of the key objectives of the NIH Roadmap for Medical Research.

The CTSA Consortium is the largest academic integration effort to date. Universities in the Consortium share broad access to the unique resources in the network, increase scientific communication leading to joint research projects, encourage information sharing and share best practices in clinical research administration.

CTSA Mission Statement:

The goal of the Clinical and Translational Science Award (CTSA) program is to transform the local, regional and national environment for clinical and translational science, thereby increasing the efficiency, quality and speed of clinical and translational research.

Who is in CTSA Network?



2006 Awardees

- Columbia University Health Sciences
- Duke University
- Mayo Clinic College of Medicine
- Oregon Health & Science University
- Rockefeller University
- University of California, Davis
- University of California, San Francisco
- University of Pennsylvania
- University of Pittsburgh
- University of Rochester
- University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston
- Yale University

2007 Awardees

- Case Western Reserve University
- Emory University
- Johns Hopkins
- University of Chicago
- University of Iowa
- University of Michigan
- University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center
- University of Washington
- University of Wisconsin
- Vanderbilt University
- Washington University
- Weill Cornell Medical College

2008 Awardees

- Albert Einstein College of Medicine of Yeshiva University
- Boston University
- Harvard University
- Indiana University School of Medicine
- Northwestern University
- The Ohio State University
- The Scripps Research Institute
- Stanford University
- Tufts University
- The University of Alabama at Birmingham
- University of Colorado Denver
- The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
- The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio
- The University of Utah

Contact:

Kate Marusina, Ph.D., MBA
Manager,
Research Facilitation and Industry Alliance,
Clinical and Translational Science Center

UCDAVIS
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

TEL: (916) 703-9177
CELL: (530) 979-1522
E-MAIL: kate.marusina@ucdmc.ucdavis.edu

The Concept:

Investigation of the biology of disease and its underlying molecular events is the cornerstone of academic research. Molecular targets are a frequent subject of academic patent applications. However, very few academic researchers develop of corresponding compounds against those targets. For an academic investigator, access to clinical-stage "failed and shelved" compounds offers an ability to perform innovative, ground breaking research that may not otherwise be possible. Alliances with innovative academic partners will reveal new indications for pharmas' compounds and expand the overall value of their portfolio. This program will ultimately enhance clinical and translational research throughout the CTSA consortium by facilitating access to compounds that have been reviewed by the FDA and approved for clinical study as investigational agents.

In August 2008, the Public-Private partnership taskforce of the CTSA Consortium was awarded a pilot grant to investigate this concept and to propose a plan for further development.

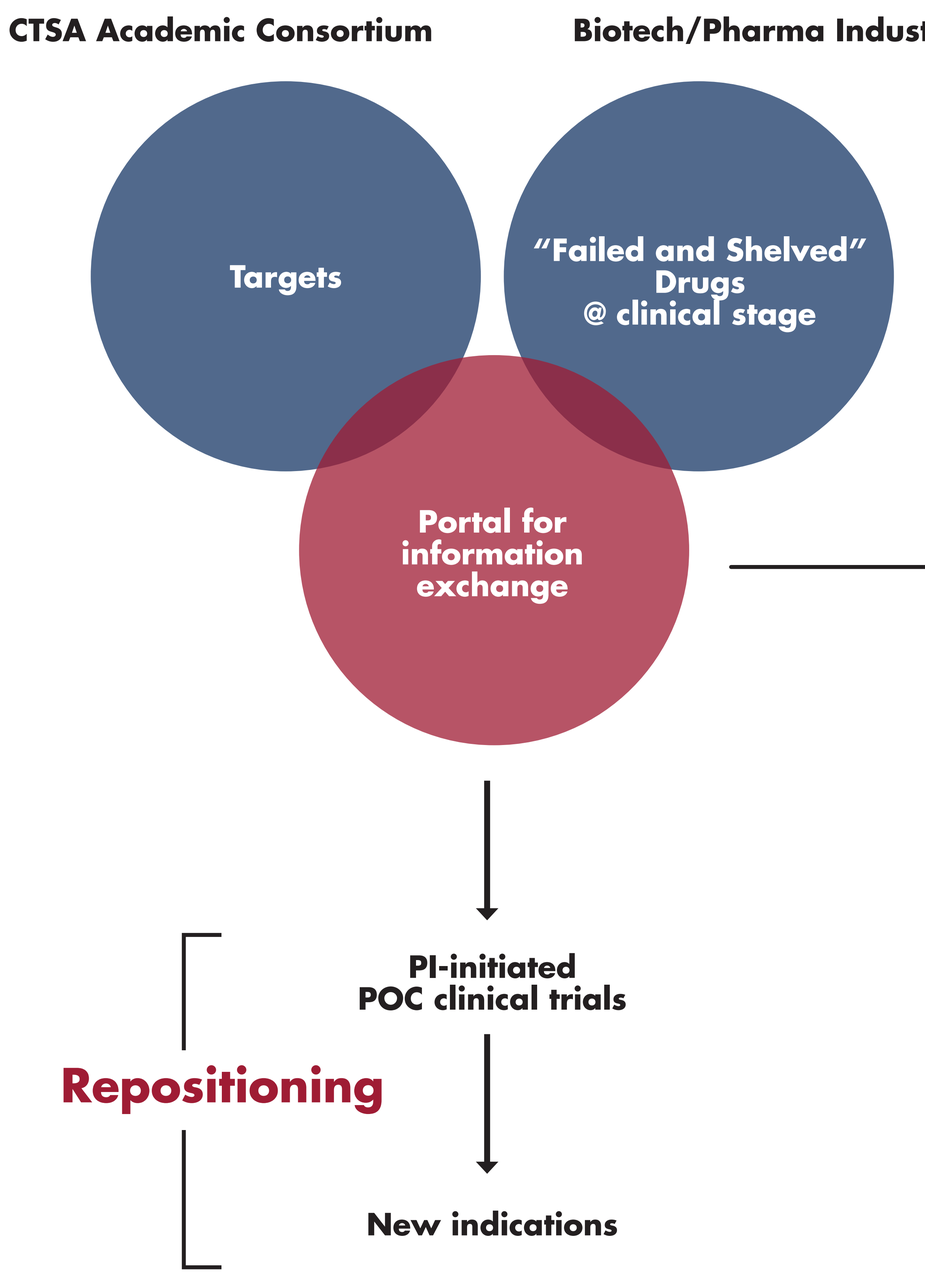
The Goal:

Provide accurate information on and facilitate access to drugs and biologics for CTSA academic investigators , with a focus on "shelved" drugs.

Specific Aims for this year:

1. Engage in discussions with selected pharmaceutical companies.
2. Utilize three-prong approach to determine the appropriate portal for information exchange between CTSA investigators and pharmaceutical companies.
3. Develop a proposal with detailed specifications for a CTSA Database/Portal of Pharmaceutical Assets based on the information received from academic and institutional stakeholders.

The Vision:



Three Prong Approach to Define the Portal:

Evaluate Drug Database for Content

Evaluate the utility and functionality of commercially available drug databases and any tools/interfaces that might be built to facilitate the knowledge of "failed and shelved" drugs. We will test three databases (Thomson Pharma, DrugBank Pro and Galapagos –EBI) for matching with a proprietary drug list. The ability (or lack thereof) to identify compounds based on publicly available data would significantly influence the design and functionality of the Portal.

Create Foci of Expertise

Create Foci of Expertise based on common research interests in particular genes/proteins. All or a portion of the researchers in the CTSA consortium will be included. This project is led by Dr. Dawei Lin (UCD Genome Center) and Dr. Aaron Cohen (OHSU). The project will be based on linking protein-protein interaction databases with the social networking software developed by OHSU. This project is designed to analyze the expertise available at the Consortium and to identify the targets that may be of interest to pharma companies.

Survey CTSA Researchers

Survey CTSA Researchers to determine the level of interest in entering repositioning space, and to identify those who have would benefit the most from the availability of the drug. This project is run by the CTSA Evaluation Committee represented by Dr. Brock and Dr. Rose at University of Washington.