An interdisciplinary approach to tracking and evaluation: The Washington University Institute of Clinical and Translational Sciences Tracking and Evaluation Team

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An interdisciplinary approach to tracking and evaluation: The Washington University Institute of Clinical and Translational Sciences Tracking and Evaluation Team

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The Washington University Institute of Clinical and Translational Sciences Tracking and Evaluation Team

The Team

One of the hallmarks of a successful clinical and translational research institute is cooperation from diverse stakeholders to form productive, interdisciplinary teams. These teams work toward the goal of improved human health through a more efficient, inventive, and effective research lifecycle. Indeed, teams comprised of diverse collaborators are often more efficient, encouraging sustained innovation and facilitating a synergistic environment.¹

It is not only the research groups that can benefit from an interdisciplinary team-based approach; the groups charged with evaluating translational efforts also benefit from cooperation across expertise and subject disciplines. The Washington University Institute of Clinical and Translational Sciences Tracking and Evaluation Team maintains a diverse membership, with expertise in areas such as qualitative and quantitative assessment, bibliometrics, social network analysis, assessment of education and training infrastructure, and outcomes², and informatics³. The team also benefits from more diverse types of expertise such as research impact assessment⁴,⁵, and expertise with types and sources of critical data including Linked Open Data held in local research discovery systems like VIVO. Strong leadership of the group and project management guidance help to foster collaboration and drive group efforts forward.

The group has produced products such as network maps⁶ to evaluate collaboration at three phases of the research cycle (i.e. grant development and submission, active scientific collaboration, and scientific publication). This work required expertise in social network analysis, bibliometrics, and qualitative and quantitative assessment including survey development. Of note are contributions by a variety of team members in data acquisition and analysis of grants, publications, and other scholarly data.

Leadership
Data Expertise
Qualitative Assessment
Informatics
Bibliometrics
Project Management
Social Network Analysis
Quantitative Assessment
Education & Training Assessment
Strategic Planning
Statistical Experience

Washington University Institute of Clinical and Translational Sciences Tracking & Evaluation Team

Career Development Awards   Postdoctoral Program   Predoctoral Programs
Clinical Research Training Center
Center for Tobacco Policy Research
Bernard Becker Medical Library
Washington University School of Medicine
Clinical and Translational Sciences
Washington University Institute of Clinical and Translational Sciences
Tracking & Evaluation Team

¹Disis ML, Slattery JT. The road we must take: multidisciplinary team science. Sci Transl Med. 2010 Mar 10;2(22):22cm9.
²Grant Development: Understanding the grant application and award process. This requires expertise in qualitative and quantitative assessment of grant applications to determine if the application is well-written and responsive to the call for funding. This work requires expertise in qualitative and quantitative assessment of research proposals, including survey development.
³Network Analysis: Understanding the relationships between people, organizations, and initiatives is fundamental to the success of any institute. This requires expertise in qualitative and quantitative assessment of social network analysis.
⁴Assessing the Impact of Research: Understanding the impact of research is critical to the success of any institute. This requires expertise in qualitative and quantitative assessment of the impact of research.
⁵Bibliometrics: Understanding the impact of research is critical to the success of any institute. This requires expertise in bibliometrics.
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