Topic DAT18-06: Health Services and Economic Research on the Treatment of Drug, Alcohol, and Tobacco Use Disorders (R01, R21, R03)

Purpose
This Drug Abuse Topic of Interest (DAT) encourages grant applications to conduct rigorous health services and economic research to maximize the availability and delivery of efficient, effective drug, alcohol, and tobacco treatment and recovery support services. Examples of such research include: (1) clinical quality improvement; (2) quality improvement in services organization and management; (3) implementation science; (4) availability, demand, access, and financing; (5) effectiveness; and (6) development or improvement of research methodology, analytic approaches, and measurement instrumentation.

Background
Although efficacious addiction treatment approaches exist, too few patients with drug, alcohol, and tobacco use disorders receive them in a timely manner or for a sufficient duration. At the same time, clinical, administrative, and financing policies and practices have been deployed without a sufficient evidence base, often resulting in barriers to high-quality care. As addiction treatment expands into additional settings, research is needed to promote the availability of effective treatment when and where patients need it, for as long as they need it.

Research Objectives
NIDA seeks research on rigorous hypothesis-driven and theory-based study designs and data analytic methods that will support a new generation of addiction health services research. This DAT encourages, but is not limited to, applications in the following areas:

- Clinical quality improvement studies to examine factors that may improve the appropriateness, effectiveness, safety, and efficiency of treatment and recovery interventions, as well as services delivered to individuals, including vulnerable populations, individuals experiencing chronic pain, sex and gender minorities, and racial and ethnic minorities, in a variety of settings including substance abuse and mental health treatment programs, schools, general health care settings, criminal and juvenile justice systems, child welfare systems and social service agencies.

- Quality improvement studies in services organization and management studies that address organizational contexts and service delivery models, the interaction of providers and programs within and across systems, and at multiple levels (e.g., program, practice network, state), and their collective impact on the quality of service delivery.

- Implementation science studies that seek to identify effective strategies for enhancing the adoption, adaptation, and sustainment of evidence-based treatment practices. Studies that examine causal models of implementation success or failure are especially encouraged.

- Studies examining the effects of practice and policy changes on service quality and outcomes, including unintended consequences.

- Economic studies falling within NIH’s priorities for health economics research as described in NOT-OD-16-025.

- Studies developing or applying new methods, technologies or other innovative tools to improve the rigor and reach of health services research.

Instructions for submitting applications:
- Insert "DAT-" (four characters) in the beginning of the Project Title of the application. [Note: NIH limits the Project Title to 200 characters (including spaces and punctuation)].
- Insert the DAT Code (e.g., DAT18-01) before the first sentence of the abstract. (This is for internal NIDA tracking purposes only).
Relevant Funding Opportunities
Parent funding opportunities that can be used to pursue these and other research activities include, but are not limited to:

- NIH Research Project Grant (Parent R01, no CT allowed) **PA-18-484**
- NIH Research Project Grant (Parent CT R01, CT only allowed) **PA-18-345**
- NIH Exploratory/Developmental Research Grant Program (Parent R21, no CT allowed) **PA-18-489**
- NIH Exploratory/Developmental Research Grant Program (Parent CT R21, CT only allowed) **PA-18-344**
- Administrative Supplements to Existing NIH Grants and Cooperative Agreements (Parent Admin Supp Clinical Trial Optional) **PA-18-591**

Scientific/Research (Program) Contacts

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AREAS OF EXPERTISE

- Health Services Research
- Implementation Science Research
- Health Economics Research
- Modeling and Methodological Research