



**Seton Healthcare Family - University of Texas at Austin (UT)
Center for Health and Social Policy (CHASP) Research Collaborative**

**Call for Letters of Intent
September 2016**

OVERVIEW

The Seton Healthcare Family Research-UT Center for Health and Social Policy Research Collaboration on healthcare transformation seeks letters of intent (LOIs) from UT faculty and trainees and their collaborators for research projects that address how we can transform health care to more efficiently and effectively meet the physical, mental and social needs of individuals and advance the broader Central Texas capacity to assess the impact of health interventions and improve health outcomes. In this second research competition of the program, we are specifically interested in funding research that promotes novel cross-disciplinary, cross-institutional and/or community collaborations in the area of value-based care: new models of care delivery that are not based on the standard fee-for-service but focus more on delivering value to all involved (patient, provider, payer) with the ultimate goal of improving health (see <https://goo.gl/xwOH9n> for more info). Preference will be given to LOIs with activities that address one or more of the following research priorities:

- **Methods:** Development of innovative methods, or novel application of existing methods, to evaluate the implementation of value-based-care delivery models. Evaluation measures can include, but not be limited to, traditional health services measures (i.e., improved health outcomes per dollar spent), patient preferences, patient experiences, or personal beliefs around their health outcomes. Applicants may consider new methods that will enable “real-time” feedback, or even “predictive” analytics, that can be used to improve care delivery approaches frequently, vs. passive collection of data for months or years before analysis. Applicants may also consider new ways of evaluating care delivery that do not rely on fixed, pre-determined measures but take advantage of data already collected or new data collected over the course of the evaluation.
- **Outcomes assessment:** Increased understanding of the preferences, biases, expectations, and/or beliefs of patients around new types of value-based care programs. Focus should be on actual programs, such as those that are being deployed with Seton and Dell Medical School, not on general views of value-based care (see <https://goo.gl/E4JdvN> and <https://goo.gl/xwn1ml> for descriptions of programs in women’s health and musculoskeletal care). Applicants may consider projects that will inform the deployment of new care delivery approaches that take into account the patients view, rather than a traditional provider-centric view, and could include shared decision-making between the patient and provider. Applicants may also consider how to assess the cost of incorporating these preferences or new approaches.

ELIGIBILITY FOR THE RESEARCH COMPETITION

- At least one research team member should be on the UT faculty or be a postdoctoral fellow (with support of a faculty member).

FUNDING

- Up to \$50,000 in funding (total) may be requested for a period of 1-2 years. No-cost extensions will be allowed.
- Funds can be used for personnel and other research costs as allowed in standard UT budget categories (see <http://www.utexas.edu/research/osp/proposal/budgets.html>). Indirect costs do not have to be included in project budget; these are charged under the master UT-CHASP-Seton agreement.
- Anticipated funding start date: On or after April 1, 2017.

LOI REQUIREMENTS

The one-page LOI should include the following components:

1. Statement of the research aims and significance (as they relate to one or more of the LOI categories indicated above)
2. Brief background on the research faculty and the partnering entities
3. Overview of the research design, methods and data (existing or to be collected)
4. Expected project deliverables and their contributions to the research program mission

All UT faculty/postdoctoral fellows and their research partners who submit an LOI will be invited to a November 10, 2016 research program meeting (3-5 pm), which is intended to help facilitate and promote cross-disciplinary/cross-institutional research partnerships and to address any questions applicants may have about the full proposal process.

TIMELINE FOR RESEARCH COMPETITION

- October 17, 2016: 1-page LOIs are due
- November 10, 2016, 3-5 pm, LBJ School of Public Affairs, Room 3.124, 2315 Red River St., Austin): Meeting of research program partners and applicants interested in preparing full proposals for the research competition
- January 20, 2017: Full proposals are due
- March 6, 2017: Notification of grant awards
- Anticipated project start date: On or after April 1, 2017

Please submit LOIs to Wendy Gonzales at the Center for Health and Social Policy at chasp@austin.utexas.edu by October 17, 2016 at 5 pm central time.

CRITERIA

The LOIs/proposals should address one or more topical areas of interest to UT CHASP-Seton (described above), have strong methods and rationale, and facilitate collaboration across disciplines or organizations as appropriate. Detailed proposal review criteria will be distributed to all who submit an LOI and will be discussed at the November 10 meeting in Austin.