



Pilot Awards
for The Use of Complementary and Integrative Health
Methods to Support Deprescribing of Benzodiazepine
Receptor Agonists

US DEPRESCRIBING RESEARCH NETWORK

USDeN Pilot Core

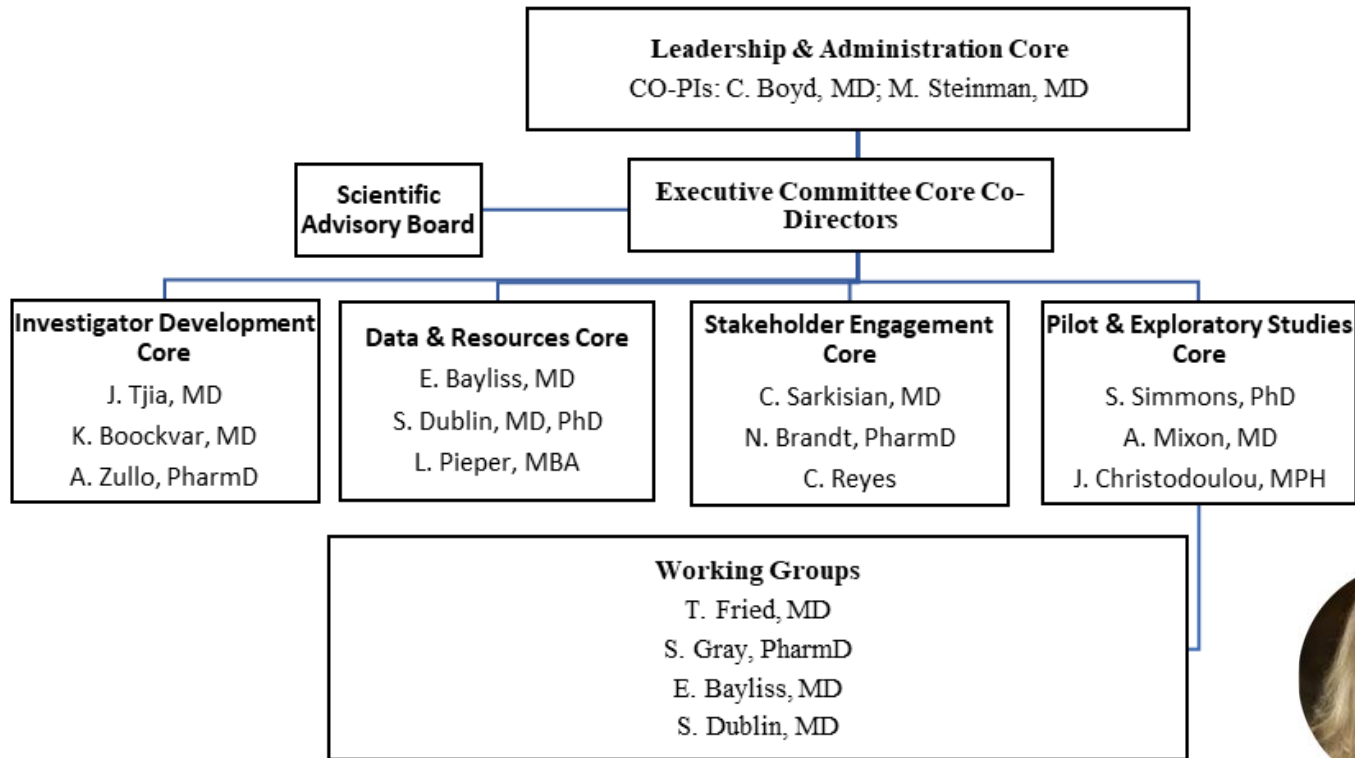
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Disclosures

- No relevant disclosures
- Thank you!
 - NIA R24 AG064025
 - Scientific Advisory Board
 - Raha Shahroodi, Haley Shiff, Jonathan Norton, Joseph Christodoulou



What is the network?



Five pillars

- Investigator development
- Stakeholder engagement
- Data and resources
- Working Groups
- Funding for pilot studies and grant-planning activities
 - New funding mechanism to support integrative health methods for deprescribing

Purpose of Awards



- Support early-stage research in deprescribing that has high potential to develop into future larger projects
- Funding for pilot projects will be provided primarily to senior researchers. Junior researchers are welcome to participate as co-investigators
- Projects should provide key preliminary data, proof of concept, or developmental work that prepares a clear pathway to future, larger-scale studies.



US Deprescribing Research Network

Advancing Research to Optimize Medication Use Among Older Adults

Investigator Initiated Proposal Guidelines (USDn IIP 2020)

The U.S. Deprescribing Research Network is a collaborative research network with the overall goal to support development of investigators studying deprescribing for older adults and to catalyze a range of high-quality, clinically impactful research in this area. The challenges of excessive medication use, medication-related harms, and values-driven decision-making are especially pressing for older adults, particularly those with multiple chronic conditions. Solutions to these challenges require attention to geriatric principles, including (but not limited to) clinical complexity and multimorbidity, transitions across multiple providers and sites of care, older adults' values and priorities, and the shifting balance of medication benefits and harms in late life. Our overarching aim is to expand the quality, quantity, and translational impact of deprescribing research. Pilot grants up to \$60,000 in total costs (direct plus indirect funds) for a one-year period will be awarded to applicants seeking to further research efforts in this field as detailed in the following sections.

- 1) **Background:** Deprescribing is an essential component of safe and effective health care for older adults. Even with the most intensive efforts, it is difficult to prevent older adults from being started on medications that may cause more harm than benefit. In addition, medications that were once helpful for older adults may no longer be advisable to continue, either because the person has developed adverse effects, or because their clinical conditions, overall health, and/or goals of care may have changed since the medication was first prescribed.
- 2) **Research Objectives:** This funding opportunity is for studies designed to expand the quality, quantity, and translational impact of deprescribing research targeting older adults. Funding will be provided primarily, but not exclusively, to junior investigators whose studies provide key preliminary data, proof of concept, or developmental work that provides a clear pathway to future, larger-scale studies.
- 3) **Population of Interest:** The study must focus on deprescribing efforts impacting older adults and may include an emphasis on patients with multiple chronic conditions, including those with special vulnerabilities, such as dementia.
- 4) **Research Methodology:** Research is needed in a broad range of areas which include, but are not limited to, delineating the clinical outcomes of deprescribing, identifying behavioral and communication techniques that can constructively engage patients on this topic, determining the effectiveness of deprescribing interventions, and addressing the needs of underserved groups. Different study designs are needed to answer these questions – from pilot research that may lead to future clinical trials, to observational studies, to in-depth qualitative evaluation.
- 5) **Funds available:** Maximum period of performance is one year. The anticipated total award (directs + indirects) for this grant opportunity is a maximum of \$60,000. If indirect cost rates have been negotiated, indirect costs are to be budgeted in accordance with the organization's negotiated rate. The combined budgeted total costs will not exceed \$60,000 or use an indirect cost rate exceeding each organization's negotiated rate. The possibility of funding exceeding \$60,000 or a period greater than one year may be considered with special permission; initiate such a request as early as possible through an email to admin@deprescribingresearch.org

RFA Investigator Initiated Proposal – November 2019

Scope of Pilot Awards

Scope of Pilot Awards: Overview

- Complementary and integrative health (CIH) modalities to support deprescribing of benzodiazepines and/or non-benzodiazepine, benzodiazepine receptor agonists (i.e., the “Z drugs”) in older adults.
- One-time funding opportunity as an administrative supplement award to USDeN from the National Center for Complementary and Integrative Health.

Scope: Definition of Deprescribing

‘Deprescribing is the process of withdrawal, dose reduction or substitution of an inappropriate (high risk, unnecessary, low benefit) medication, supervised by a health care professional with the goal of managing polypharmacy (also relevant for those without ‘polypharmacy’) and improving outcomes.’

- University of South Australia

See also: <https://deprescribingresearch.org/about-us/what-is-deprescribing/>

Scope of Pilot Awards

Pilots should:

Have a direct and clear relationship to deprescribing Benzodiazepine Receptor agonists in older adults

Be relevant to the care of older adults

Demonstrate a clear pathway for a future large-scale grant (e.g., NIH or AHRQ R01, major PCORI award, or other)

Eligibility Criteria

Applicant Eligibility

- Hold a Doctoral degree (MD, PhD, PharmD or equivalent)
- Employed as faculty, research scientist or equivalent position by start date of award
- Work in a college, university, medical or nursing school, or other fiscally responsible organizations
- Only one application per individual but two or more are allowed from the same institution



Applicant Eligibility Continued

- Eligible researchers at non-US institutions will be considered, but articulate how the proposed research will apply outside the home country, including the U.S.
- Applicants from under-represented racial and ethnic groups, socioeconomically-disadvantaged backgrounds, as well as individuals with disabilities encouraged to apply
- Applicant organizations must be registered with System for Award Management (SAM) and have a Dun and Bradstreet Universal Numbering Systems (DUNS) number



Available Funds

Available Funds

- Up to \$160,000 in total costs (direct + indirect)
 - Indirect costs charged by recipient institution's federally negotiated rate
 - Foreign organizations may charge no more than 8% of modified total direct costs
- Estimated distribution in April or May 2023 for use over a 1-year period
- 4 planned awards



Submission Materials

Letters of Intent

Required:

Details to include: Research team, aims, approach, stakeholder engagement, and/or grant-planning activities

Further directions: <https://deprescribingresearch.org/network-activities/grant-opportunities/>

Submit online: <https://form.jotform.com/202587295984169>

Formatting: 1 page, ½” margins, 11-point Arial font
Due Monday, November 14, 2022, 11:59 PM (PST)

Required Sections

Sections
Study Aims
Significance
Stakeholder Engagement
Innovation
Approach
Future Directions
Details about grant planning activities, including aims and approaches for larger-scale study
Funding mechanisms (i.e., how work will lead to grants, publications, etc.)

Maximum of 6 pages (including cover), ½” margins, 11-point Arial font
Due Friday, December 16, 2022, 11:59 PM (PST)

Stakeholder Engagement

Required Components

Description of stakeholders

Details on their engagement

Information on how they will inform work

Timeline of their study-related activities

Settings and methods of engagement



*Please see <https://www.pcori.org/engagement/engagement-resources> for additional information on engaging stakeholders.

Required Supplemental Materials

Half-page project description in lay terminology for stakeholders

NIH-style biosketch

Budget Forms:

- Budget summary
- Budget justification
- Scope of work
- F&A rate agreement
- Subrecipient commitment form (if applicable)



(Does not count toward
6-page limit)

Submit Online

<https://deprescribingresearch.org/network-activities/grant-opportunities/>



US DePrescribing Research Network

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Grant Opportunities

The network funds pilot and exploratory studies, grant planning activities, and small collaboration grants. The goals of these grant programs are to support early-stage research in deprescribing that has high potential to develop into future large projects, to catalyze research in areas that are of particular importance to the field, to support junior investigator development, and to promote collaborations that will lead to future research projects.

- [Pilot awards](#)
- [Grant planning awards](#)
- [Collaboration awards](#)
- [Learn about network grantees and their projects](#)

Investigator Development

Grant Opportunities

Engaging Stakeholders

Data and Resources

Working Groups

Key Dates

Letters of Intent (required):	Monday, November 14, 2022, 11:59 PM (PST)
Full application:	Friday, December 16, 2022, 11:59 PM (PST)
Awards announced:	February 2023
Beginning of funding for selected awards:	April or May 2023

Scoring Criteria

Reviewers' Scoring Criteria

Categories:	Description:
Overall Impact	The likelihood for the project to lead to an RO1 or equivalent trial.
Innovation	The degree to which the research addresses a topic that is relevant and important, fills gaps in knowledge, and/or seeks to shift current shortcomings in deprescribing, including any novel concepts, methodologies or intervention(s).
Scientific Rigor of Approach	The description of study aims and objectives, population and/or community to be served, and study design, methodology, as well as planned analysis are all clear and appropriate. This may also include descriptions of any potential problems and alternative strategies as well as any applicable preliminary studies.
Feasibility	The feasibility of completing the research within the one-year time frame and allocated budget.
Investigators and Environment	The qualifications of the investigator(s) to conduct the study and conduciveness of the research environment to maintain a successful project.

Reviewers' Scoring Criteria (Continued)

Categories:	Description:
Potential to Lead to Larger-Scale Work	The likelihood the proposed work will lead to larger-scale projects that expand the quality, quantity, and translational impact of deprescribing initiatives. The description of future publications, grants, and career advancement milestones are included as are potential funding mechanisms and submission timelines.
Relevance to Aging	The relevance of the application to deprescribing efforts impacting older adults.
Stakeholder Engagement	How stakeholders will: Relate to the study topic (i.e. experience, motivation, etc.), be recruited and selected, intersect with study aims and objectives, compensated for their time and efforts, and be meaningfully engaged with the grant planning process.
Budget	The appropriateness of the proposed research to be successfully implemented by available funds. This is also not scored.

Expectations and Resources for Awardees

Expectations and Resources

Year End Progress Report

Present Work at the
Annual Meeting

Yearly Online Surveys After
Award Period

Additional Expectations and Resources

Quarterly Calls with Pilot
Core

Calls with Stakeholder
Engagement Core

Optional USDeN Webinars
and Work-in Progress
Seminars

Optional use of USDeN
Consultation Services

USDeN Annual Meeting

- Annual Meeting occurred by in-person on May 11th, 2022 in Florida
- Approx. 100 people attended.
- Featured speakers: Barbara Farrell, Amy Linsky, Kristin Zimmerman, and Matt Maciejewski
- Recordings of these featured talks on deprescribing can be found on our website!



4th Annual Meeting: May 3rd 2023, Long Beach California (Prior to AGS)

Collaboration Grants

Awards to incubate topic- and site-specific collaborative efforts related to deprescribing



- Small grants (\$500-\$5,000)
- Examples: (1) convening a mini-summit of investigators in a geographic area; (2) seed funding for geographically-diverse investigators wishing to collaborate
- Application includes brief proposal and budget justification

USDeN Collaboration Grant Submission

Please complete all fields and refer back to the application instructions for guidance. Upload application as one document (.pdf, .doc, or .docx). If you encounter any problems with your submission, please email admin@deprescribingresearch.org

First name *

Last name *

Email *
example@example.com

Institution *

Applications reviewed on a rolling basis – apply now!

Upcoming Webinar: Oct. 21, 2pm ET



Dr. Amanda Mixon, MD, MSPH: board certified internist and Associate Professor in the Section of Hospital Medicine



Dr. Sandra Simmons, PhD: Professor of Medicine in Geriatrics, Director of the Center for Quality Aging

Both Dr. Mixon & Dr. Simmons are research scientists at the VA Tennessee Valley Healthcare System and faculty at VUMC.

WEBINAR

USDeN-Funded Pilot & Grant Planning Award
Application Information Session (2023-2024 Cycle)

October 21, 2022 | 2:00 – 3:00 PM Eastern / 11:00 – 12:00 PM Pacific

Presenter(s): Drs. Amanda Mixon & Sandra Simmons

[Register Here »](#)

Register on our website!

DeprescribingResearch.org



US Deprescribing Research Network

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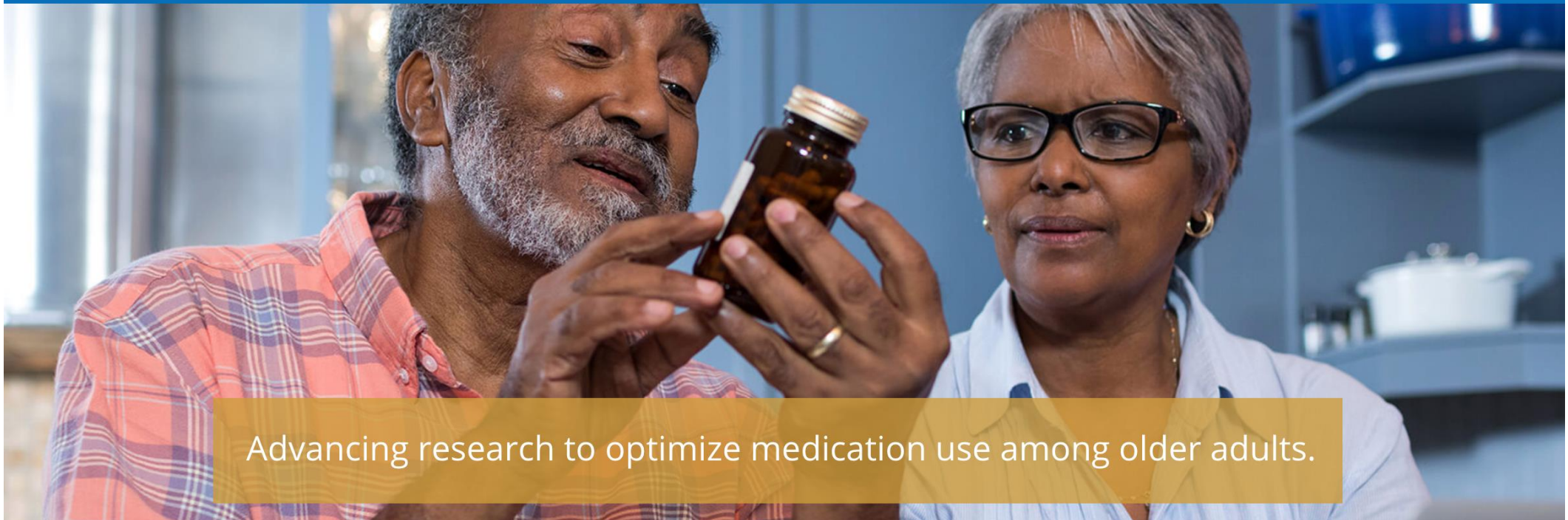
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Advancing research to optimize medication use among older adults.