

Community-Based Research Infrastructure Collaboratory

Create a public-private pre-competitive network to build capabilities for a coordinated nationwide system for inclusive community-based clinical research

Why It Matters

The COVID-19 pandemic showed that government, philanthropic, and private investments in shared platforms and enduring infrastructure could accelerate R&D innovation. It also made it clear the U.S. had an opportunity to significantly improve community-based research infrastructure to run clinical trials efficiently and effectively, and to engage potential participants in all the places where they live, work, and get their care.

The marketplace is growing to enable more community-based research, but many organizations work in silos and are not coordinated in their requirements and approaches. This contributes to burden on research sites and community partners. Collaboration between public- and private-sector research sponsors is limited.

A more resilient, efficient, and coordinated nationwide system can only be built by sharing best practices, streamlining approaches, and building awareness of the capabilities and relative strengths of many different types of research networks and sites.

Solution

FasterCures, with support from the Heritage Provider Network, is establishing a learning network of collaborators composed of:

- Care providers and professional associations
- Federal sponsors and regulators
- Community research networks
- Technology companies
- Community-based organizations
- Biopharmaceutical companies
- Contract research organizations
- Health systems

The Collaboratory will share best practices on specific topics, develop tools, write policy and practice change proposals, and provide venues for collaboration. Common challenges it may address include:

- Information sharing and cross-sector learning
- Capacity building for new research sites
- Curating trial-agnostic educational materials that are widely available
- Streamlining administrative burden
- Identifying approaches to cataloging clinical trials capacity

Impact

The aim is to drive an ecosystem in which:

-  Community hospitals, health centers, and provider practices have access to the personnel, resources and technology they need to engage in research
-  Research sponsors coordinate and collaborate to build capacity in community sites, and public- and private-sector research sponsors are better aligned
-  Community sites and their partners have access to a sustainable pipeline of research opportunities
-  Technology platforms and data collection are better standardized and harmonized, and are minimally burdensome to sites and staff



[Learn more](#) about building community-based infrastructure for inclusive research

Objectives for the Collaboratory include:

- Building a robust and engaged Collaboratory membership from a variety of sectors
- Producing resources that enable progress for the field
- Facilitating formal and informal collaborations among participants

Key Learnings

Collaboration and information-sharing between the public and private sectors is essential to expand national research capacity and readiness between public health emergencies and to improving trial accessibility for all people.

