

## Core Competencies for Clinical and Translational Investigator Training

The task of CTSA education programs is to prepare the next generation of investigators to conduct clinical and translational research that will address the health care challenges faced in the United States. Creating a recognizable discipline centered on clinical and translational science will help build this workforce. To help establish the discipline, the CTSA Education and Career Development Key Function Committee has drafted national standards for core competencies in clinical and translational science.

The thematic competencies identify common, basic elements that should shape the training experiences of junior investigators by defining skills, attitudes and behaviors that can be shared across multidisciplinary teams of clinician-scientists. The overall goal is to create a competency-based education for training clinician-scientists that will define the discipline of clinical and translational science.

### Research Methods

- Identify major clinical/public health problems and relevant translational research questions
- Access and critique health science knowledge through literature searches using advanced search techniques
- Identify, interpret, and critique literature and assess the state of knowledge regarding a problem
- Know how to design a study protocol for clinical and translational research
- Understand study methods, design and implementation
- Use appropriate laboratory, clinical, and population research methods
- Understand the principles of the conduct of responsible research

### Analysis, Statistics, and Informatics

- Be able to use appropriate statistical methods and conduct relevant analysis
- Describe and make use of best practices for managing, protecting, and analyzing biomedical and health information

### Community & Communications

- Understand the principles of community engagement in clinical and translational research
- Navigate competently among diverse populations and cultures
- Be able to communicate scientific findings to your peers and to disseminate scientific knowledge to those outside your field, including other scientists, university administrators, policy makers, and the public

### Leadership & Training

- Participate in cross-disciplinary training and mentoring
- Demonstrate leadership and professionalism
- Engage in translational teamwork

More information:

[https://www.ctsacentral.org/documents/CTSA%20Core%20Competencies\\_%20final%202011.pdf](https://www.ctsacentral.org/documents/CTSA%20Core%20Competencies_%20final%202011.pdf)

<http://www.ncats.nih.gov/research/cts/ctsa/training/training-next-gen.html>