

FACT SHEET

The [Research Centers in Minority Institutions](#) Translational Research Network, RTRN, is a cooperative research network that facilitates translational research in health disparity areas. RTRN represents a groundbreaking effort to integrate clinical, biomedical and behavioral science. By leveraging the intellectual and technological resources of the [18 RCMI centers](#), RTRN enables researchers to collaborate more efficiently, enhance scientific productivity and translate their findings into improved health mechanisms for their communities.

- The following [RCMI institutions](#) form the RCMI Translational Research Network: Charles Drew University of Medicine and Science, City College of New York, Clark Atlanta University, Florida A&M University, Howard University, Hunter College, Jackson State University, Meharry Medical College, Morehouse School of Medicine, Morgan State University, Ponce School of Medicine, Texas Southern University, Tuskegee University, University of Hawaii, University of Puerto Rico, University of Texas at El Paso and University of Texas at San Antonio.
- RTRN is governed by a Steering Committee comprised of 18 members including the RTRN Principal Investigator (PI), DTCC director and program director, NIH program officers and PIs and program directors from select RCMI centers across the network.
- RTRN is comprised of four components:
 - Administrative Core
 - Translational Research Cluster System
 - Education and Training Platform
 - Data Technology Coordinating Center
- RTRN, which includes a state-of-the-art data technology coordinating center (DTCC) provides services to support translational research.
- RTRN DTCC provides technology infrastructure and data management resources to facilitate inter-institutional collaborations, including community engagement, information and data sharing and dissemination across the RCMI community.

- RTRN's Educational Platform offers continued learning and training programs to help RTRN investigators and others in the effective conduct of translational research and community-based participatory research. Basic courses include IRB submittals, legal and regulatory issues, human subjects protection, health disparities and more.
- RTRN research is organized in disease-based working groups comprised of research faculty from RCMI centers with similar interests, characterized as Translational Research Clusters.
- There are currently six research clusters: Cancer and Immunological diseases, Cardiovascular and related diseases, HIV/AIDS and Infectious diseases, Neurological diseases and Mental Health, Obesity and Metabolic diseases and Community-based Participatory Research.
- The translational research cluster system promotes intellectual exchange, generates innovative inter- and multi-disciplinary research and facilitates the movement of scientific advances across the translational research spectrum.
- RTRN is supported by grant number U54RR022762 from the [National Center for Research Resources](#), National Institutes of Health (NIH). This grant also receives co-funding from the [National Center on Minority Health and Health Disparities](#), NIH.

Mission

To foster and support inter-institutional collaborations to maximally leverage resources and expertise across each member RCMI institution, enhancing the research capacity and accelerating the understanding and treatment of diseases, with a focus on those that disproportionately affect underserved communities.

Vision

To lead health science innovation that focuses on improving the health of underserved communities and be a valued resource of health-related research for these communities.

Leadership

Keith Norris, M.D.
Charles Drew University
Principal Investigator

Richard Yanagihara, M.D.
University of Hawaii
Director of Research

James Perkins, Ph.D.
Jackson State University
DTCC Director

M. Edwina Barnett, M.B.A,
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