



2014 Innovation Pilot Awards Announced

In November, the Center for Innovation of UNC Health Care and the School of Medicine announced the second round of its \$50,000 Innovation Pilot Awards. The Center requested proposals from employees for innovations across a broad spectrum of areas including care delivery, technology, continuum of care, and clinical process redesign.

We received 18 excellent applications from across UNC Health Care and the School of Medicine. The proposals offered a range of innovative approaches and exhibited dedication to improving care for our patients and strengthening our health care system.

We are pleased to announce the four winning teams and share a summary of their projects with you:

A SMART Assessment of Novel Laser Therapies for the Management of Hypertrophic Burn Scars

PI: Scott Hultman (Department of Surgery, Plastic)

Co-PI: Bruce Cairns (Department of Surgery, Burn)

To evaluate the efficacy of existing hypertrophic burn treatment options in a prospective, randomized, controlled, single-blinded trial, compared to medical therapy alone, and determine the feasibility of a SMART (Sequential, Multiple Assignment, Randomized Trial) design in burn patients.

Interoperative Recording Device to Minimize Trauma During Cochlear Implant Surgery

PI: Oliver Adunka (Otolaryngology, Head & Neck Surgery)

Co-PI: Douglas Fitzpatrick (Otolaryngology, Head & Neck Surgery)

Co-PI: Christopher Giardina (Department of Biomedical Engineering)

To optimize speech outcomes with cochlear implants by measuring and monitoring cochlear function during implantation.

Low Cost Dedicated Urological Ultrasound Scanner Feasibility

PI: Robert "Matt" Coward (Department of Urology)

Co-PI: Paul Dayton (Department of Biomedical Engineering)

To build and validate a new low-cost prototype ultrasound system designed specifically for penile and scrotal imaging that will expand the existing advantages of ultrasound and is more easily deployed to, and used at, a wide range of clinics and hospitals.

Peer Support Team

PI: Samantha Meltzer-Brody (Department of Psychiatry)

Co-PI: Celeste Mayer (UNC Health Care Legal)

To develop and measure the impact of a program to provide evidence-based, compassionate and timely peer support to UNC caregivers involved in adverse patient events.

Thanks to all of the applicants for their interest and dedication, and congratulations to the winners.

The Center for Innovation is a small resource center that promotes the development of patient-centered innovations designed to address the current challenges facing our nation's health care delivery system related to cost efficiency, quality of care, innovative health care deliver and alignment of incentives among industry participants. To learn more, visit our webpage at www.med.unc.edu/innovation.