



## Co-Director: CCTSI Pragmatic EHR-Embedded Trials (PEET) Program

The Colorado Clinical and Translational Sciences Institute (CCTSI) is one of 62 institutions across the nation funded by the NIH Clinical Translational Science Award (CTSA) program. The CCTSI is headquartered at the University of Colorado (CU) Anschutz Medical Campus and is an active partnership between CU Denver, CU Boulder, Colorado State University (CSU), 5 hospitals and 20 community organizations and communities throughout the state. The CCTSI educates a workforce of professional research staff and investigators, creates a collaborative environment that supports local and multi-site research, partners with communities through its community engagement program, creates infrastructure and methodologies that support research in all populations, and enhances health informatics, data science and data sharing capabilities.

The position of Co-Director of the CCTSI Pragmatic EHR-Embedded Trials (PEET) Program works alongside the CCTSI Director, Director of Operations and Director of Finance and Administration. The PEET program is funded by the CTSA UM1 grant issued to CU Denver and is a program within the CCTSI (Element E of the UM1 grant). PEET establishes infrastructure and procedures to facilitate pragmatic trials through EHR integration. PEET addresses clinical and translational science challenges posed by traditional randomized controlled trials (RCTs) by reducing the burden on participants, clinicians, and researchers in research approval and conduct. This is achieved through partnerships with health system and university research regulatory, informatics, and data science units. Community engagement in designing and implementing patient-centered materials and protocols aims to build trust and increase trial participation. Scientific advisory on pragmatic trial design, dissemination and implementation science, and community engagement enhances research rigor. PEET supports multiple EHR integration features at UHealth, including streamlined resources for decentralized clinical trials (e.g., e-consent, portal-based patient recruitment), cohort identification, randomization, intervention delivery, trial accrual monitoring, and data collection and analysis. The PEET program funds one 2-year pilot demonstration project each year that utilizes the PEET infrastructure. Current priorities relate to studies conducted in adult populations within UHealth.

### Supervision Received:

- The PEET Program Co-Directors receive oversight from the CCTSI Director (Ronald Sokol, MD) and the CCTSI Director of Operations (Janine Higgins, PhD). Drs Sokol and Higgins are also the Principal Investigators of the NIH CTSA UM1 grant for the CCTSI.

### Supervision Exercised:

- The PEET Co-Directors oversee the PEET core staff consisting of a program manager, clinical research coordinator and two Epic data analysts
- The PEET Co-Directors also oversee the progress and processes of study teams conducting the selected PEET demonstration projects

### Position Emphasis: PEET Co-Director

The PEET Co-Directors (one clinician investigator and one implementation scientist) are strategic leaders responsible for fostering alignment between the UHealth system and the clinical research enterprise. This **PEET Co-Director role is for an experienced clinician-investigator** to focus on integrating clinical trials into standard healthcare operations and ensuring seamless collaboration between healthcare delivery, research, and trial infrastructure.

### Key Responsibilities:

- Lead efforts to integrate clinical trials and research protocols into the broader health system, aligning with operational workflows and care delivery.
- Serve as a liaison between clinical leadership, UCHHealth Epic teams, research teams, and administrative stakeholders to ensure cohesive coordination and communication.
- Utilize clinical expertise to identify and resolve barriers to trial implementation and optimize the participant and provider experience.
- Collaborate with institutional leadership to design and implement policies, procedures, and strategic initiatives that support EHR-embedded research within the clinical environment.
- Develop and maintain strong partnerships across departments and with external collaborators to expand trial opportunities and promote translational research.
- Monitor performance metrics and outcomes related to PEET trial integration and continuously improve systems and processes to enhance effectiveness and impact.
- Analyze quality metrics, conduct root cause analysis for PEET demonstration projects and work with all key stakeholders to build workflows and infrastructure that streamline the conduct and success of EHR-embedded trials broadly.
- Participate in development and dissemination of toolkits for future EHR-embedded trails. Including dissemination of key findings on a national level.
- Provide reports and metrics for the annual CTSA UM1 RPPR, annual External Advisory Committee meetings, other reports as requested, and participate in future CTSA grant writing.
- Attendance at CTSA meetings and participation on working groups, as needed.

For additional details on the program, please review the program's webpage:

<https://cctsi.cuanschutz.edu/resources/pragmatic-research-resources#ft-pragmatic-ehr-embedded-trials-3>

#### **Examples of work performed:**

- Co-lead the process to issue RFAs, review applications, and select PEET demonstration projects, as well as provide programmatic oversight
- Serve as the primary liaison between the PEET team, the demonstration project research teams, and the Epic analysts to identify opportunities for integrating research workflows into clinical care.
- Collaborate with the UCHHealth system IT and operation teams to ensure that PEET research protocols are appropriately represented in Epic, including patient eligibility screening, randomization, consent tracking, EHR-based data dashboards/reports and data capture.
- Represent the CCTSI research enterprise in UCHHealth system integration meetings to ensure alignment with broader clinical priorities, informatics initiatives, and compliance requirements.
- Troubleshoot and assist in resolving system-level issues affecting research implementation or data quality within the EHR.
- Foster collaborative relationships with UCHHealth system partners (e.g. hospital administration, informatics leadership, clinical departments) to support a unified research strategy and sustainable infrastructure.
- Co-Chair the PEET Steering Committee
- The PEET Co-Director will be a Key Person on the NIH CTSA UM1 grant to the University of Colorado and will serve as a voting member of the CCTSI Executive Committee. The Executive Committee meets the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month (via zoom) from 4-5:30p.

#### **Minimum qualifications:**

##### *Educational Requirements*

- A medical degree (MD, MD/PhD, DO or similar degree)
- Mid-career professional (Associate Professor) or beyond

- History of extramural research funding

#### *Professional Work Experience*

- Minimum of 4+ years of hands-on experience directing clinical trials
- Credentialed clinician on the Medical Staff in good standing at UCHHealth
- Experience with GCP/ICH guidelines and best practices in clinical research
- Demonstrated leadership, managerial, and communication skills, including mentoring others

#### **Preferred Qualifications**

- Understanding of conducting pragmatic research trials
- Experience in study co-design processes

#### **Salary and Benefits:**

Salary support is provided through funding of committed effort at the individual's current institutional salary level and benefit rate. Supported effort will be 10%. Salary support is limited to the current NIH salary cap of \$225,700 (full-time equivalent salary).

#### **Equal Employment Opportunity Statement:**

The University of Colorado (CU) is an Equal Opportunity Employer and complies with all applicable federal, state, and local laws governing non-discrimination in employment. We are committed to creating a workplace where all individuals are treated with respect and dignity, and we encourage individuals from all backgrounds to apply. Please contact [hr.adacoordinator@ucdenver.edu](mailto:hr.adacoordinator@ucdenver.edu) for information on disability accommodations.

#### **Application Materials Instructions:**

#### **Application Deadline: June 13, 2025**

Application materials should be emailed to Tim Lockie ([tim.lockie@cuanschutz.edu](mailto:tim.lockie@cuanschutz.edu)) by June 13, 2025. Review of applications will begin immediately and will continue until the position is filled.

#### **Special Instructions to Applicants:**

**Required Application Materials:** If you are interested in this position, please submit your full professional CV and a cover letter explaining your qualifications and why you are interested in this position to [tim.lockie@cuanschutz.edu](mailto:tim.lockie@cuanschutz.edu) by **June 13, 2025**. In addition, please address the following in your cover letter:

1. What makes you qualified for this leadership position?
2. Why are you interested in this position? How does it align with your professional goals?