

Q & A with Nina and Cerise

Spring ADC Directors Meeting

Administrators

April 20, 2018

- How would you prioritize the Expert Panel's 166 recommendations?
 - <https://www.nia.nih.gov/news/expert-panel-offers-transformative-recommendations-nih-alzheimers-research-centers>
- What was the philosophy behind the changes that were made to the current RFA (e.g. change to the projects, addition of the biomarker core, addition of the REC, all centers designated as an ADRC, etc.)?
- Do you expect to grow the number of centers in the near future? If so, will you target specific areas of the country (i.e. under-served areas, or areas with a high density population)?
- Do you plan to evolve/morph the ADC's into something different than they look today? If so, what might the ADC's look like in the next 5-10 years?

- What overlap/interface might be possible between a Y4 progress report and a renewal request -- especially if close in submission timeline? Are there substantive changes to be mindful of besides the REC subcomponent and change of big projects? For example, will Pilot projects still be smaller projects or will the funding for those be expanded?
- It is our understanding that all Centers are becoming ADRCs. We are currently an ADCC. Do we have to wait until we resubmit our application in 2-3 years to start calling ourselves an ADRC? We are a relatively new Center, so it would be nice to go ahead and update it to avoid confusion in the future. In addition, our institution is revising its website, so it would be ideal to go ahead and make the changes for branding/marketing purposes.

- <https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-AG-19-001.html>
- Do you have any sense of when ADC grant submissions will be due in 2019?
- Do you anticipate that next year's RFA will be largely similar to RFA-AG-19-001?
- What tutorials or guidelines are there for first-time renewal requests? Are there timeline/targeted information gathering suggestions for center renewals?

- It is our understanding that the pilot grant program will be changing with the new ADC structure. Will the changes to the program apply to us prior to our competitive renewal? When can we take advantage of the larger budgets, longer grant periods, etc. for our pilot grants?



- Are ADC's still expected to have a pilot award program or is this optional? If it is optional, will an ADC be reviewed unfavorably if there is no pilot award program?

- Have you considered moving the 2-times per year ADC meetings to one-time per year? If so, do you see this happening and when might that change take place?
- There are preliminary discussions on having 1 ADC meeting per year instead of 2 per year. What is the rationale to switching to 1 per year? Is it due to budget?

- Please provide examples of successful work/collaborations with other NIA centers such as Roybal or AMP-AD.
 - 1015 Saturday morning – Opportunities for Collaboration
 - <https://www.alz.washington.edu/NONMEMBER/present.html>
 - NIA Translational Program Spring 2017
 - Pepper Centers Fall 2016
 - CDC Fall 2016
 - RCMAR Fall 2016

- In our Center, there is talk about "seeing how other Centers approach the REC" prior to our own application in 2019. How would this work in reality? What level of transparency will there be around the variation in how RECs are established and run, within the constraint of the linking mechanism? Who would be best person or people to contact, to understand the level of various and which ones are considered on a better trajectory after the first year or two - or will they just be "different"?
- The Pepper Center at Wake Forest has funding for early career faculty effort to support investigators through their R01 grants. It is my understanding that it operates as a RL5 funding mechanism. The question was asked if our ADC can use REC Core resources in a similar manner. This would help enable us to build our workforce.

- REDCap electronic data capture in the CC especially - seems like this is the way many Centers are moving. Would it be worthwhile to have this be a more unified, centralized system with regular Cross-Center updates (ie. more than once a year @ ADC meetings) about what is, or is not, going well with the system? We are considering REDCap for electronic data capture for the CC at our Center, and have spoken to 3 other Centers to date, and it seems like this could be a more systemized and streamlined process for Centers to get this up and running based on the experience of other Centers. Ideas? Suggestions?
- Any updates on implementation of GUID?

- Would you review the new Human Subjects requirements, especially related to reporting in the RPPR and in ASSIST when new applications go in? Also how does this relate to the ADRC pilots - what will be required if they involve human subjects?
 - <https://grants.nih.gov/policy/clinical-trials/new-human-subject-clinical-trial-info-form.htm>

- What does the NIA do with the Progress Reports? Would there be more efficient ways to manage and analyze the data? For example, would it be helpful for all Centers to record the federal and non-federal grant data in a central place?
- Given the new change for all centers to be P30, how will that impact administrative reporting responsibilities (e.g., RPPR vs. another, etc)

- What are your perspectives on career development goals & paths for Center administrators, especially since it is a mandatory Center position? While a few Center administrators also have academic faculty appointments, others do not. What are your recommendations for Center administrators career development?
- Our ADC would like to start Alzheimer's 101 - a workshop series on the basics of AD research. The premise would be to encourage new and established investigators in other areas to enter the AD field. Are there other Centers providing these types of workshops? If so, do they have any templates or materials that they would be willing to share?
 - <https://www.nia.nih.gov/approved-concepts#small>
 - Research Centers Collaborative Network (RCCN)