Assessment to Action: Engaging network member’s in identifying needs and directions of network improvement

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OBJECTIVES/SPECIFIC AIMS: To complete a needs assessment and action planning process that engaged clinical and translational research network members in identifying needs through survey feedback, characterizing the needs in small group sessions, and developing recommendations for action at the network’s annual scientific meeting. METHODS/STUDY POPULATION: The project included a survey of 357 members across partner institutions from the NTF meeting. METHODS/STUDY POPULATION: The project included a survey of 357 members across partner institutions from the NTF meeting. RESULTS/ANTICIPATED RESULTS: Based on results from published human NTF administration trials, we anticipate that a successful intervention using GDNF-G3 will result in rescue or delayed degeneration of midbrain dopaminergic neurons in a murine PD model. Outcome measures include behavioral PD phenotype testing via rotarod and pole descent compared to non-parkinsonian control animals, as well as corroborating immunohistochemical evidence from immunohistochemical examination of post-mortem brain tissue from the same animals to examine degree of degeneration.

DISCUSSION/SIGNIFICANCE OF IMPACT: Current treatments for PD, whether pharmacological or surgical, center on alleviating movement symptoms that impair daily function - in other words, largely palliative care. Little has been accomplished by way of rescue of dopaminergic neurons or slowing disease progression using standard-of-care therapy. If successful, GDNF-G3 constructs administered intracranially at the site of degeneration would represent a milestone on the path to treating the basic pathology associated with PD, while addressing major shortcomings in earlier NTF-delivery attempts, namely NTF diffusion away from target site.

Collaboration in Reappointment, Promotion, and Tenure Guidelines
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OBJECTIVES/SPECIFIC AIMS: As the issues facing our global society become more complex, university faculty are called upon to address these contemporary problems using interdisciplinary approaches. But do reappointment, promotion, and tenure (RPT) guidelines reflect and reward this fundamental change in the nature of higher education and scholarly inquiry? After collecting all of the RPT guidelines across the university, our research team at the University of Cincinnati (UC) conducted a content analysis of these documents to determine how collaborative work is defined, interpreted, and supported. In addition, we also sought to identify differences in how collaborative work is valued across disciplines and how that value has changed over time. METHODS/STUDY POPULATION: An initial database was assembled that included two distinct data samples: historical and current. Both included RPT criteria for over 100 disciplinary units at the university. Working with the initial comprehensive database, the team narrowed content by selecting all language related to collaborative work using several relevant keywords or keyword fragments (team, collaborat[*], discipline[*], and interprofessional). This process resulted in a subset of data reflecting the area of interest that could then be coded. Three investigators independently coded common portions of the data, and discrepancies between the investigators’ coding schemes were resolved through discussion. The final, common coding scheme will be used to code the remainder of the data by each independent investigator. The team meets weekly to discuss significant passages and assign codes, and then reach consensus related to important themes that are identified. Specifically, we will examine the frequency with which collaborative activities are included, the value and emphasis given to them, and the differences across units. Having a historical sample and a current sample also allows us to