NUTORC
Comprehensive Transplant Center
Feinberg School of Medicine
Northwestern University
676 N. St. Clair St., Suite 1900
Chicago, IL  60611

http://nutorc.org/site/

Northwestern University
Transplant Outcomes
Research Collaborative

Comprehensive Transplant Center
Feinberg School of Medicine
Northwestern University
676 N. St. Clair St., Suite 1900
Chicago, IL  60611
Tel: 312-695-3555
Fax: 866-485-9212
E-Mail: CTC@northwestern.edu
Mission:
Northwestern University Transplant Outcomes Research Collaborative (NUTORC) is a collaboration of forward-thinking clinicians and researchers from seemingly disparate disciplines to guide high impact, innovative, health data-driven transplant outcomes research. Our mission is to be a highly productive and nationally recognized research hub that conducts collaborative transplant outcomes research, establishes best transplant practices, guides transplant policy, increases transplantation and services and provides a fertile environment to mentor and educate early-career investigators.

Vision:
Our vision is to become a nexus for health data-driven outcomes research that informs best transplant practices, guides policy, and increases transplantation.

About Us:
Directed by Dr. Daniela Ladner, NUTORC concentrates on exploring the vast amounts of data involved in the health systems process for patients who are in end-stage kidney and liver disease or at any point of the organ transplantation process and how this data can influence patient outcomes. NUTORC strives to build research capacity in health data-driven outcomes and addressing issues in transplantation from a learning health systems perspective by strategically growing a transdisciplinary team of scholars.

Quantitative:
- Optimization of organ allocation and organ use
- Comparative effectiveness studies in liver and kidney transplantation
- Population based studies using aggregated EHR data
- Cardiovascular disease (CVD) risk prediction, prevention and treatment approaches in patients with chronic liver disease
- Large data sets/artificial intelligence and data quality in transplant
- Neurological issues in transplantation, i.e. hepatic encephalopathy
- Infections in transplant recipients
- Aging and transplant
- NASH Cirrhosis
- Hepatocellular carcinoma

Qualitative:
- Reducing ethnic disparity and improving informed consent in vulnerable populations
- Medication adherence for patients on immunosuppressive drugs
- Reduction of medical errors and patient safety in transplantation
- Assessment of personality in patients with end-stage liver disease
- Development and validation of patient reported outcomes to understanding quality of life in transplant patients

NUTORC Cores
Health Informatics
Areas of interest include identifying collaborating transplant centers to include in multi-center data integration, integrating multi-source data to monitor medication compliance and long-term kidney graft survival, utilizing large datasets in analyzing transplant-related policy and economics, and creating a comprehensive transplant datamart in the Northwestern University Enterprise Data Warehouse.

Biostatistics
The mission of the Biostatistics Core is to provide state-of-the-art statistical training and analytic support services to investigators interested in basic, pre-clinical, clinical and epidemiological transplant studies. This core provides statistical support for all focus groups for manuscripts and grant preparation. Services include: study design & implementation, statistical methodological research, randomization, sample size and power calculations, statistical analysis, and statistical consulting.

Administrative
This Core provides logistical support for the NUTORC focus groups and the Education Core. This core coordinates and submits federal and non-federal grant submissions along with the Office for Sponsored Research (OSR), prepares manuscripts and abstracts for local and national conferences and supports and maintains interdepartmental and trans-disciplinary collaborations.

Education
This Core organizes the involvement of students in the various Focus Groups. The goal of this core group is to provide the tools, experiences, expertise, and infrastructure to teach and expand on a high level of skill and knowledge in health outcomes research. The educational programs provide rigorous training by multidisciplinary senior, mid-level, and junior mentors. This core runs a year-round internship with regular educational lectures for students covering a large scope of transplant and health services and outcomes research topics. Specific programs involve: T-32/F-32 Postdoctoral Fellowships, Pre-doctoral Fellowships, Student Internships, and Clinical Observations.

Collaborations and Activities:
NUTORC supports activities that strengthen collaborations across several disciplines and analytic methodologies. We are highly interested in collaborations with experts in transplantation medicine, data science, artificial intelligence, and biostatistics. Activities which connect across the Chicago and Evanston campuses are prioritized. We invite you to join us on this exciting path of collaborative work through NUTORC and our mission to define a new era in transplant outcomes research.

Getting Started
To discuss starting a project with NUTORC please contact:

Corrine Loftus
NUTORC Program Coordinator
nutorc@northwestern.edu