

# *The CTSA Program: Collaborative Innovation for Translational Research*

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NCATS

# Transforming the CTSA Program

**Common Metrics**

**Promoting Collaboration**

**Strengthening Network Capacity**



Image Source: <http://www.ifacile.com/2012/04/08/how-good-are-your-meetings/>

# Common Metrics

Transforming how we measure impact  
and manage strategically



# Collaborative Approach to Metrics Initiative

## Guiding Principles adopted by the CTSA Steering Committee

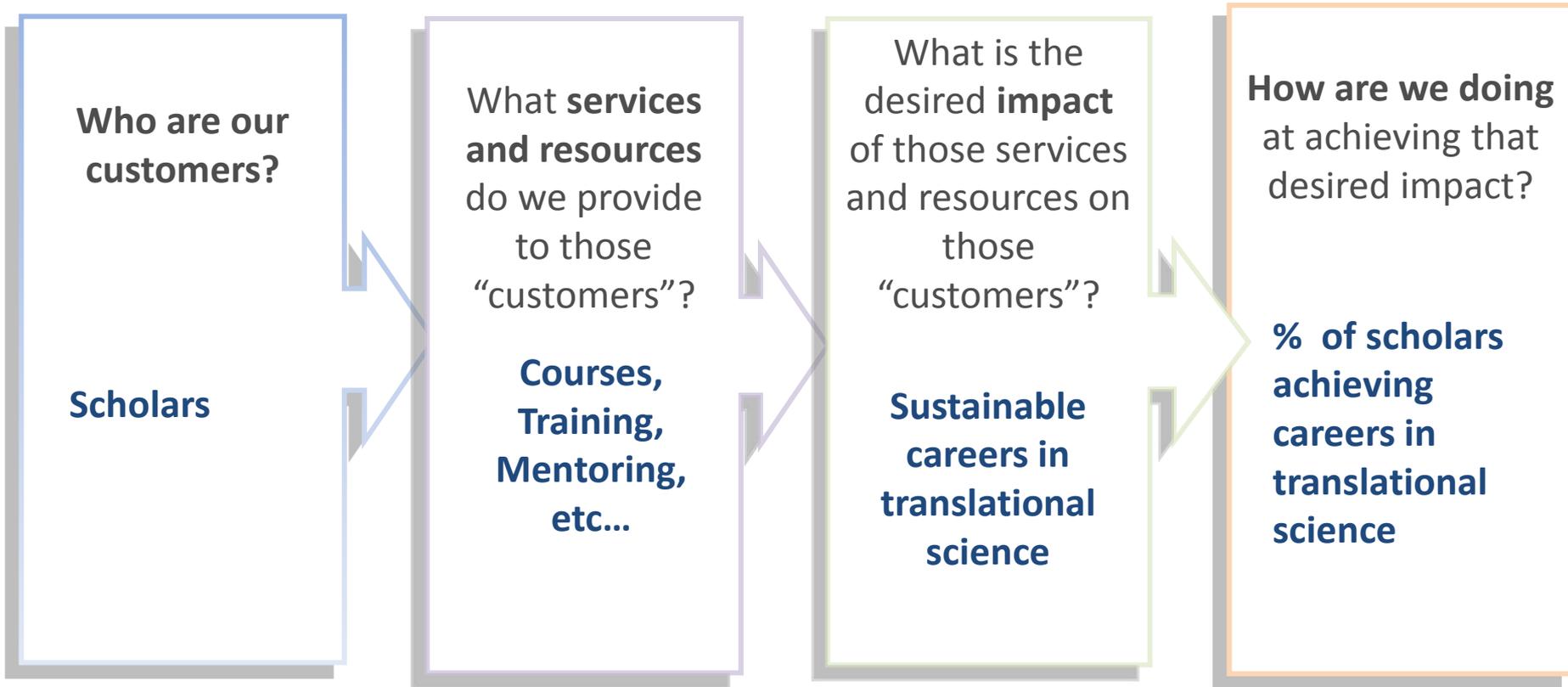
- **Useful**
  - Must be useful to – and used by – the CTSA Principal Investigators and NCATS staff for the strategic management of the CTSA Program
- **Focus on Impact**
  - Will help to focus strategic management on maximizing the impact of the CTSA Program
- **Collaborative Leadership**
  - A systematic, transparent framework that fosters collaboration and shared accountability for maximizing the impact of the CTSA Program

# Collaborative Leadership

## Guiding Principles adopted by the CTSA Steering Committee

- **PI Leadership**
  - CTSA Steering Committee, in partnership with NCATS, is leading the Common Metrics initiative
  - Four Working Groups; PIs with active leadership roles
- **Building on Prior Work**
  - Building on prior work on metrics and evaluation
  - Engaging the evaluation community
- **Intended use of Metrics**
  - If using metrics in assessing performance, always assess the context – story behind the curve
  - Peer review process and NIH criteria are used for funding decisions

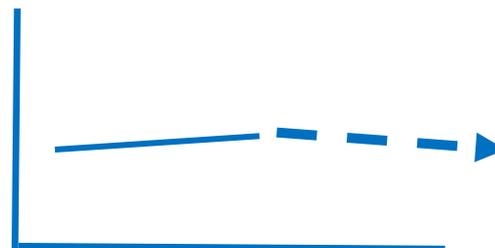
# Case Study: Workforce Development



# Case Study: Workforce Development

**How are we doing?**

**Potential Metric: % of scholars achieving sustainable careers in translational science**



**Why?**

**The story behind the curve**

**Who?**

**Partners with a role to play in turning the curve**

**Propose to do?**

**Action Plan**

# Metrics: In Summary

- Collaborative leadership
- Metrics are intended to be used in context
- Understand the story behind the curve
- Identify partners who may have role to play in turning the curve
- Brainstorming/Innovation/Joint-problem solving: Exploring and generating options for strategies that will turn the curve
- Now working with PIs to develop metrics

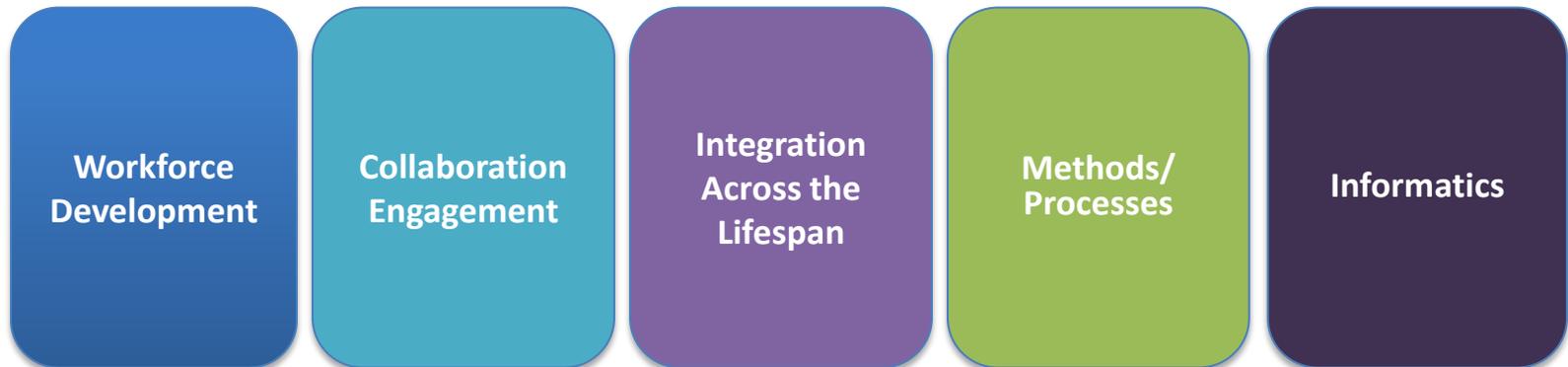
# COLLABORATIONS

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# CTSA Communications Structure

- Domain Task Forces aligned with strategic goals
- NIH, FDA and community members
- Organizationally guided by the Steering Committee
- Working Groups already launched



# Fostering Collaborative Innovations in the CTSA network

PAR-15-172 and PAR-15-173

- Address translational science roadblocks across the entire process
- Encourage teams from multiple CTSA hubs to work together
- Demonstrate utility across sites and disseminate approaches
- New methods that can be applied to different disease areas



# STRENGTHENING NETWORK CAPACITY

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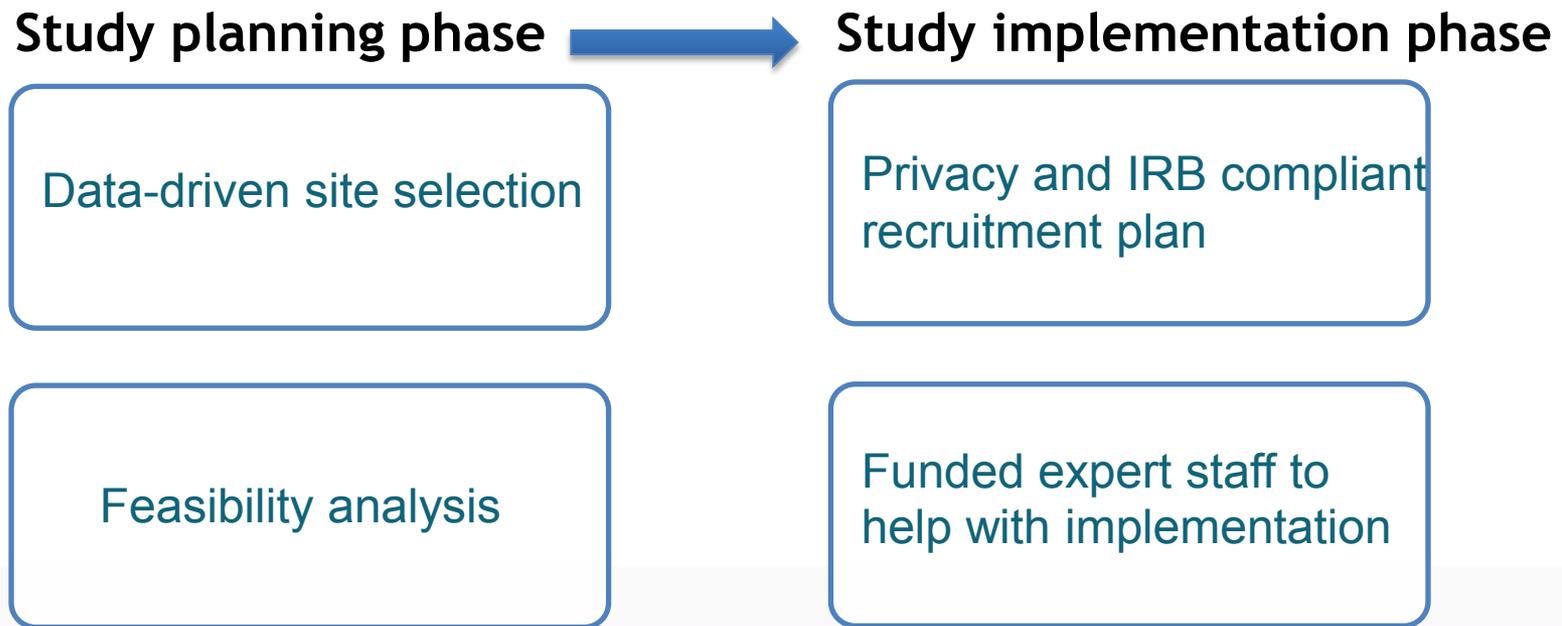
# Innovation for Multi-site Studies: Participant Recruitment

## RFA TR 15-004 – CTSA Network Recruitment Innovation Centers (RICs)

**The problem:** Slow recruitment delays most NIH-funded trials

**The approach:** Build national recruitment capacity using data from the Electronic Health Record (EHR) to find potential trial participants who meet entry criteria

**NIH Partner:** NLM



# Innovation for Multi-site Studies: Streamlining Processes

RFA-TR-15-002 - CTSA Network Trial Innovation Centers (TICs)

**The problem:** Study start-up takes too long

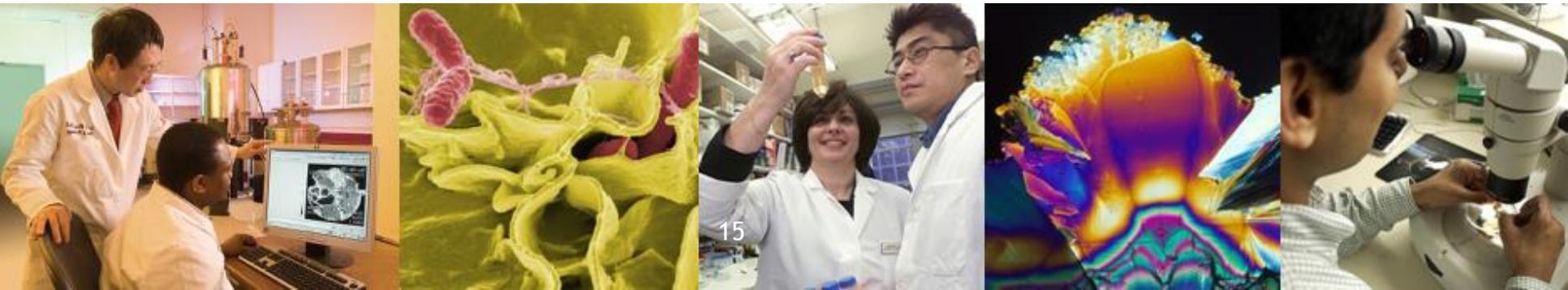
**The approach:** Streamline, standardize and centralize processes

**NIH Partner:** NIA



# Take-Home Messages

- The current pace of translational science cannot address the opportunities.
- 21<sup>st</sup> c. needs cannot be solved with 20<sup>th</sup> c. tools.
- The CTSA program has begun to transform itself and its programs to meet these opportunities for the benefit of patients through:
  - **Common Metrics** – disciplined focus on impact
  - **Collaborations** – innovative discussions and projects
  - **Strengthening Network Capacity** – enabling multi-site studies



# DISCUSSION