NCATS Subcommittee Report on Pharma/BioTech/Venture (PBV) Groups

June 18 2015

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MISSION

- Provide recommendations to NCATS in ways it can maximize awareness and effectiveness of existing programs with commercial partners such as Pharma and biotech.
- The subcommittee is also exploring ideas and models that can further NCATS visibility and effectiveness in developing strategic public private partnerships that stimulate and facilitate innovation in translational science.

Promising Ideas Discussed in May 2014 Council

- Expanding existing NCATS programs, such as Discovering New Therapeutics Uses Program, to allow for co-funding from other stakeholders
- Increase capacity of existing "de-risking" programs, such as TRND, BrIDGs, Molecular Probe Programs to allow for cofunding from other stakeholders
- Develop rare disease meta-registry to allow data to be mined for "commonalities"- first step toward promoting "metacollaborations".

Sub-Committee Recommendations Concepts

Gaps in Translational Science Discovery & Development Programs:

- •Identify transformational science, technology platforms and projects that are "game changing". (e.g. Tissue Chip, Devices, Tissue Printing, Electroceuticals, Synthetic biology etc.)
- •Identify existing translational projects that need additional resources to move to the clinic and beyond (e.g. TRND, BriDGs, Molecular Probes, engineering/IT technologies, rare disease meta-registry to mine data for "commonalities", etc.)
- Assess the scientific, technological and business roadblocks and hurdles to advance these projects rapidly

Sub-Committee Recommendations Proposed Approaches

- Consult Pharma/Biotech/VC experts and stakeholders from NIH translational programs to define the scope of qualified programs.
- Identify, review and recommend addressing gaps in programs.
- Develop processes & business models to connect project owners to external partners with interest and capabilities, funding resources (Innocentive-like Crowd sourcing, Venture or NTU-like Models)
- Develop metrics to assess success in project progress, business/partnership models, funding innovation