

**NCATS**

COLLABORATE. INNOVATE. ACCELERATE.

NCATS Director Roundtable Series:

*Translating the Strategic Plan into  
Action*

Joni L. Rutter

*Director*

*National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences (NCATS)*

**Public Roundtable - September 30, 2024**



**NIH** National Center  
for Advancing  
Translational Sciences


# Group Norms



# NCATS Strategic Plan Process



## Initial Engagement (Fall 2022 – Summer 2023)



**1,700+**  
unique  
comments



**1,150+**  
individuals  
engaged



**44+**  
formal  
meetings




**70+**  
written  
responses



## Strategic Planning Roundtable Discussions

May 9 Session: 12–1:30 p.m. EDT  
May 10 Session: 9:30–11 a.m. EDT  
[ncats.nih.gov/events/#roundtables](https://ncats.nih.gov/events/#roundtables)



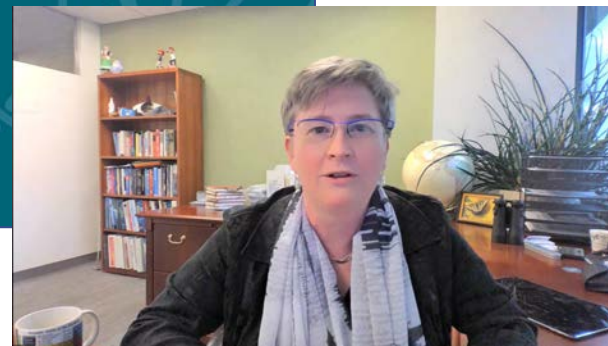
National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences



### Advancing the Clinical Translational Science Enterprise: *A Virtual Roundtable*

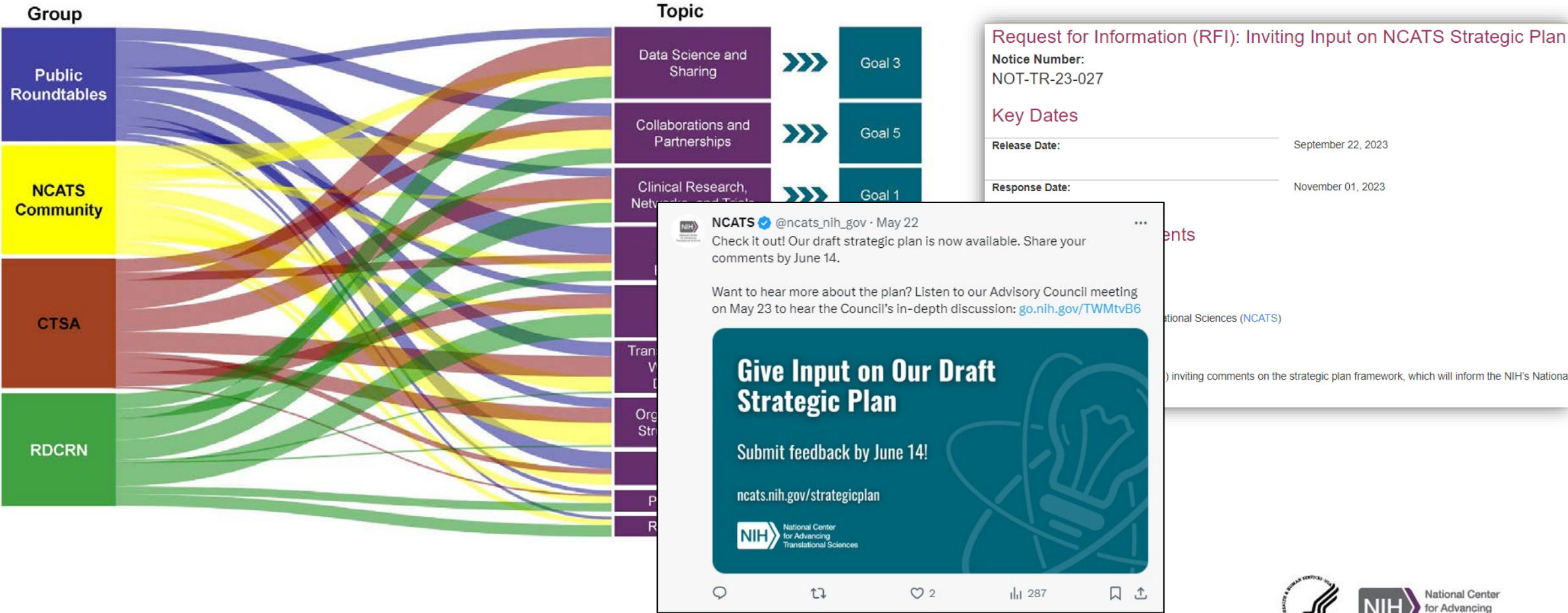
Joni Rutter, PhD  
Director, NCATS

November 4 | November 14 | November 17



# NCATS Strategic Plan Process

## Draft Goals and Themes for Feedback (Fall 2023)



**Request for Information (RFI): Inviting Input on NCATS Strategic Plan**  
**Notice Number:** NOT-TR-23-027

**Key Dates**

**Release Date:** September 22, 2023

**Response Date:** November 01, 2023

...ents

ational Sciences (NCATS)

) inviting comments on the strategic plan framework, which will inform the NIH's National

**NCATS** @ncats\_nih\_gov · May 22

Check it out! Our draft strategic plan is now available. Share your comments by June 14.

Want to hear more about the plan? Listen to our Advisory Council meeting on May 23 to hear the Council's in-depth discussion: [go.nih.gov/TWMtvB6](https://go.nih.gov/TWMtvB6)

**Give Input on Our Draft Strategic Plan**

Submit feedback by June 14!

[ncats.nih.gov/strategicplan](https://ncats.nih.gov/strategicplan)

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# NCATS Strategic Plan Process

## Launch! September 10, 2024



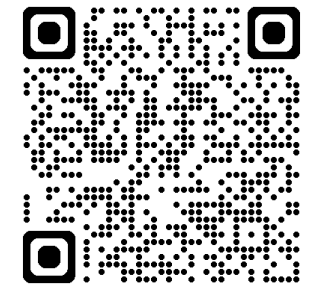
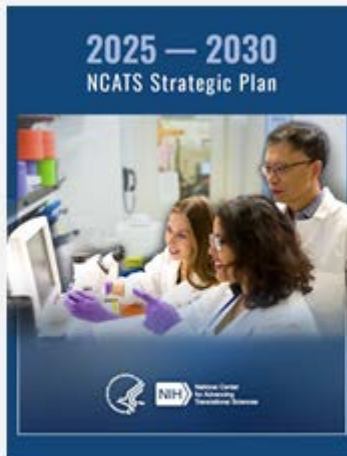
# NCATS

September 10, 2024

### Now Available: NCATS Strategic Plan for 2025–2030

We are pleased to announce the publication of the [NCATS Strategic Plan for 2025–2030](#)! We received invaluable feedback from across the translational science community, and we thank you for your input along the way. For an overview of the plan and next steps, [read the latest NCATS Director's Message](#).

If you want to learn about NCATS updates and discuss the strategic plan, [register for the NCATS Director Roundtable](#) on Sept. 30, 2024, from 3:00–4:00 p.m. EDT.



<https://ncats.nih.gov/about/ncats-overview/strategic-plan>

*Count us IN! Thank you, Joni Rutter, and the entire NCATS team for mapping out such an inclusive and impactful strategic plan. We're all in! –Annie Kennedy, EveryLife Foundation*

*...A wonderful roadmap for the future of translational science. By focusing on increased treatments, inclusivity, and efficiency, NCATS is offering a beacon of hope for those living with undiagnosed, ultra-rare, and rare diseases. –Amy Gray, UDNF*



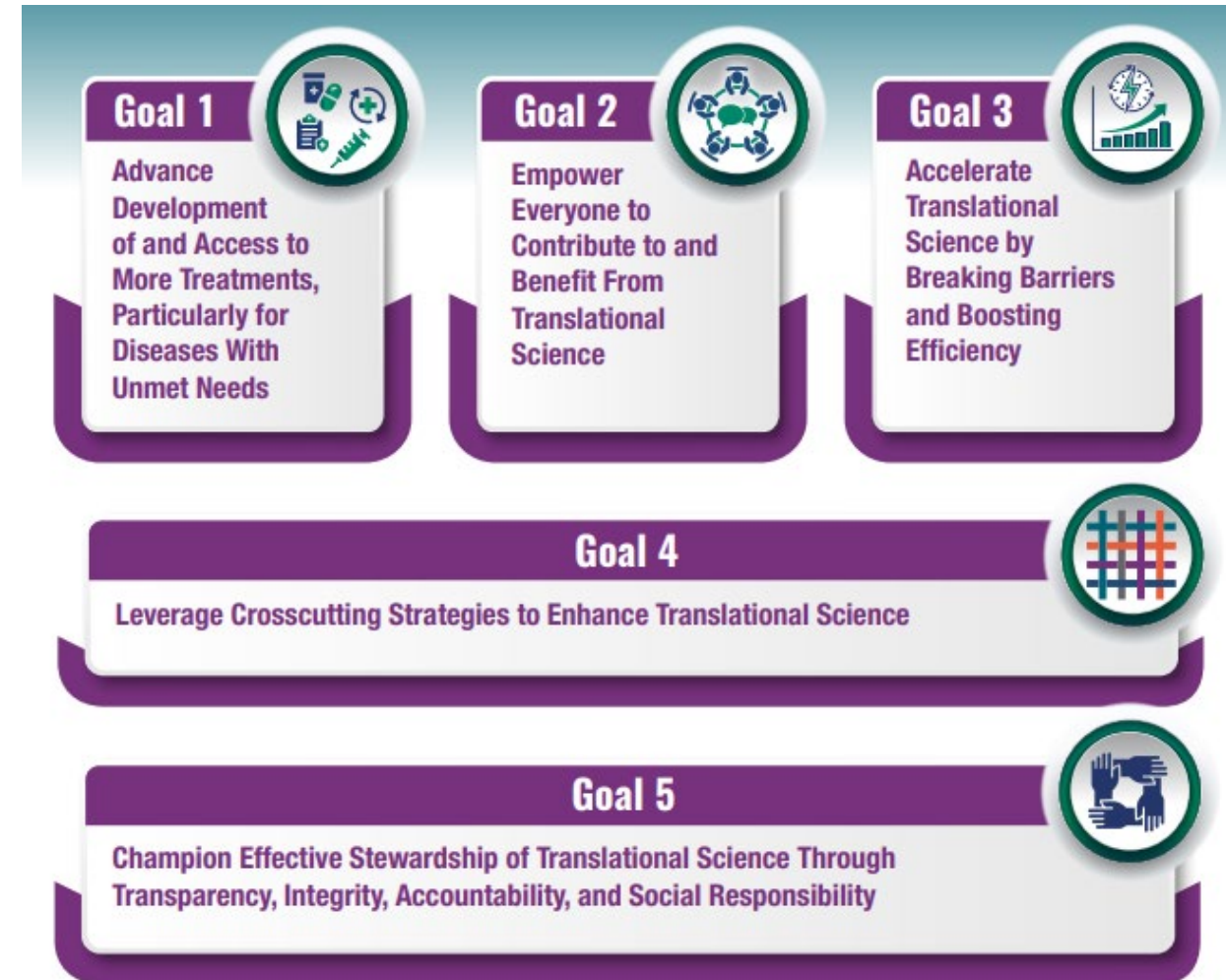
# Turning Vision Into Action



- Team science and collaboration among diverse groups
- Creativity for inclusive, impactful innovation
- Transparent communication and open discourse
- Diversity, equity, inclusion, accessibility, and belonging
- Continuous learning for strategic growth
- Generalizable solutions for increased efficiency and sustainability
- Integrity and stewardship
- Patient and community relationships/partnerships

Figure 1. NCATS' core values.

## Strategic Plan Framework





# Goal 1

Advance Development of and Access to More Treatments,  
Particularly for Diseases With Unmet Needs



Diagnosis and targeted interventions

New molecules and targets

National clinical and translational networks

Preclinical testing





# Goal 2

Empower Everyone to Contribute to and Benefit From Translational Science



Rare Disease Day at NIH 2024



**RARE DISEASE  
DAY** at NIH  
Feb. 29, 2024 | #RDDNIH



Inclusion in translational science research

Communities & patients as partners

Address health inequities

Translational science workforce



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# Goal 3

Accelerate Translational Science by Breaking Barriers and Boosting Efficiency



Scientific and operational innovations

Data science approaches

Platform technologies and predictive models

WORKSHOP WILL BE VIRTUAL AND FREE TO ATTEND  
SEPTEMBER 11, 2023

#### SESSION TOPICS

Introduction and Keynote Speaker  
Rare Disease Research and Resources at NCATS

**SESSION I:** Building experimental iPSC-derived 3D cellular models to advance translational science for rare diseases

**SESSION II:** Building data resources from iPSC-derived 3D cellular models to enable progress in translational research for rare diseases

**SESSION III:** Therapeutic approaches in rare diseases

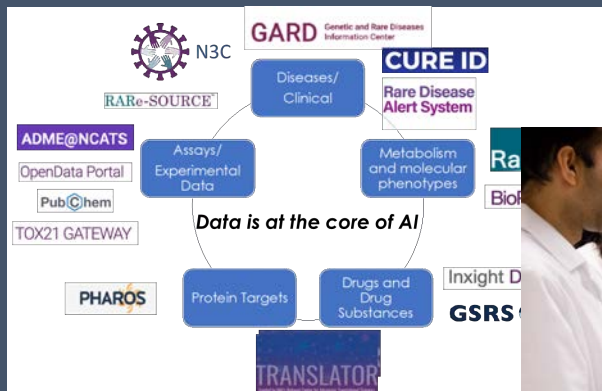


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# Goal 4

## Leverage Crosscutting Strategies to Enhance Translational Science



Team science

Partnerships and collaborations

Data science standards

Translational science principles





# Goal 5

Champion Effective Stewardship of Translational Science Through Transparency, Integrity, Accountability, and Social Responsibility

Open, shareable, and transparent

Robust, reproducible and ethical research

Policies and guidance

Infrastructure and impact

Cure JM Advocates Present  
**Proclamation of Thanks to NCATS**



The Cure JM Advocates Council, patients, and families proudly present Dr. Joni Rutter and her team at the National Center for Translational Science and Technology for their work in critical research, drug discovery, and clinical trial breakthroughs.



# Strategic Planning → Strategic DOING

**NCATS communities have a critical role in helping us achieve our audacious goals and address emerging national research priorities.**

## Expanding clinical research capacity

- Jumpstart NIH director's vision
- Leverage existing networks
- Engage in new clinical trial modalities

## Using RWD and clinical Informatics to improve public health

- AI/ML
- Platform technology
- Predictive models

## Training the next generation of the research workforce

- Inclusivity
- AIM-AHEAD
- Career development

## Other things we're watching

- Women's health
- Quantum science



# Communities and Patients as Partners

**Objective 2-2: Expand engagement of diverse communities as partners in translational science to develop shared understandings of needs that inform research approaches that benefit these communities.**

**Examples:**

- **Community advisory boards**
- **Inviting patient communities to participate in workshops, funding announcements, or prize competitions**
- **Patient advocacy groups as part of research teams**



What unique approaches can we take to engage communities, particularly those communities with small patient populations and challenges in diagnosis?



# Discussion Questions

- 1. From your perspective, what aspects of the strategic plan will have the biggest impact on getting more treatments to all people more quickly, particularly for rare diseases?**
- 2. Do you have ideas for forming stronger partnerships with external groups to support changes that would accelerate translational science?**
- 3. What innovative solutions or approaches could promote faster access to diagnostics and treatments?**
- 4. What are ways we can raise awareness about the importance of translational science among policymakers and the public?**
- 5. If you think about some of the tools and resources NCATS has like GARD and the Toolkit for Patient-Focused Therapy Development, are there are others that might be helpful for your community?**





November 25, 2024

**NCATS Only**

# Strategic Plan Implementation Leadership Retreat

**Define roles & responsibilities for implementing the SP**

**Develop an action plan to operationalize the SP goals and objectives**

**Cultivate relationships and enhance collaboration among leadership**

**Empower leadership to lead change**

**Apply implementation science to enable adoption**



# Thank You!

## Learn More

Visit us at [ncats.nih.gov](https://ncats.nih.gov)

Subscribe to Joni's email list:

[go.nih.gov/NCATStakeholderListserv](https://go.nih.gov/NCATStakeholderListserv)



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