



The UK Center for Health Equity Transformation (CHET)

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What is Health Equity Research?

Health equity research examines health and health care of underserved populations, causes of these health inequities, development and evaluation of interventions to address these inequities, and dissemination, translation, and implementation of these interventions



Justification for CHET

1. All of UK's benchmark universities have Health Equity/Health Disparities Centers or Institutes
2. KY has among the worst health disparities in the US



Kentucky's health rankings, outcomes

Source: America's Health rankings, 2015

Condition	KY's Ranking in the US
Cancer deaths	50
CVD	43
Diabetes	45
Premature death	44
Poor mental health days	47
Poor physical health days	48
Overall	47

Note: In 13 counties across the U.S., Americans can now expect to die younger than their parents did. And the eight counties with the largest [declines in life expectancy](#) since 1980 are all in the state of Kentucky. (Source: Dwyer-Lindgren, JAMA 2017).



Justification for CHET

3. UK is forfeiting tremendous NIH and other funding opportunities (Centers of Excellence, P30s, PPG, etc.) without such an organizing structure
4. CHET would strengthen existing Centers/Institutes
5. There is tremendous interest and support across the UK campus: 85 faculty affiliates from all 16 Colleges
6. CHET may enhance underrepresented groups' hires.



Grant opportunities	#
Centers: NIMHD Specialized Centers of Excellence on Minority Health and Health Disparities (U54), RCMC Research Coordination Network (RRCN) (U54), PCORI Cycle 1 2018 (for Addressing Disparities, Assessment of Options, Communication and Dissemination Research, Improving Healthcare Systems)	RFA-MD-17-005, RFA=MD-18-00
R01/R21: Mechanisms, Models, Measurement, & Management in Pain Research, Health Services Research on Minority Health and Health Disparities, Mechanisms of Disparities in Chronic Liver Diseases and Cancer, Dissemination and Implementation Research in Health, NIH Research Project Grant, Addressing Health Disparities through Effective Interventions Among Immigrant Populations, Understanding Factors in Infancy and Early Childhood (Birth to 24 months) That Influence Obesity Development, Simulation Modeling and Systems Science to Address Health Disparities, Testing Interventions for Health-Enhancing Physical Activity. Advancing the Science of Geriatric Palliative Care, Mechanisms and Consequences of Sleep Disparities in the U.S., Basic Cancer Research in Cancer Health Disparities	PAR 18-287, PAR 18-286, PAR 18-141, PAR 18-159, PAR 18-017, PAR 18-007, PAR 18-345, PAR 18-344, PAR 18-284, PAR 18-032, PAR 18-331, PAR 18-324, PAR 15-093
Cancer: Cancer Research Education Grants Program to Promote Diversity Research Experiences (R25), Cancer Research Education Grants Program to Promote Diversity - Courses for Skills Development (R25), Comprehensive Partnerships to Advance Cancer Health Equity (CPACHE) Feasibility and Planning Studies for Development of Specialized Programs of Research Excellence (SPOREs) to Investigate Cancer Health Disparities (P20)	PAR-16-138, 139 PAR-18-361. RFA-CA-17-033
Training: Short-term Mentored Career Enhancement Awards for Mid-Career Investigators to Integrate Basic Behavioral and Social Sciences (K18), Research Supplements to Promote Re-Entry into Biomedical and Behavioral Research Careers	PAR-18-349. PAR-17-486, PA-16-289



Research

Goal: To increase health equity research by catalyzing transdisciplinary, impactful research with extramural support. To foster an enriching environment capable of bringing together faculty, students, staff from across colleges and community stakeholders.

Approaches: Hire, co-locate, and support health equity researchers; conduct pilot grant competition; provide enrichment through seminars, methods workshops, and collaborative opportunities; provide grant and writing assistance to researcher with boilerplate materials, justifications, assistance with applications, grant review and consultation.



Training

Goal: To grow the number, capacity, and synergy of health equity researchers through training and professional development. To provide opportunities to students, post docs, and junior faculty to engage in collaborative, transdisciplinary, and transformational health equity research

Approaches: Hire, co-locate, and mentor students, post docs, and junior faculty for scientific careers in health equity research; develop institutional training grants; enhance the DREAM Scholars program; establish the Student Ambassadors Program; and facilitate recruitment and retention of underrepresented faculty and student positions.



Resources & plans

Approval by UK Senate, President, BoT

Year 1: Hire 2-3 RTS faculty, postdoc/students, staff; T32 submission

Year 2: Hire 2 RTS faculty, postdoc/students, Center of Excellence submission

Year 3: Hire 1-2 RTS faculty, postdoc/students, R series applications submission

Year 4: Hire 1-2 RTS faculty, postdoc/students, P30 or PPG submission

Year 5: Hire 1-2 RTS faculty, postdoc/students, various NIH submissions