

# The Ohio State University's CTSA UM1 Pilot Programs

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# OSU/NCH Pilot Programs

- In middle of third RFA
- Will fund translational research that meets/addresses translational science principles



# OSU/NCH Pilot Programs Process

- Ideation sessions – including education on TS
- Pre-application – have typically screened out about 50%
- Full applications
- Education of reviewers on TS – relying on PMID 38384905
- Reviews including through CTSA External Reviewer Exchange Consortium (CEREC)
- Study section leads to ranked list
- Selection of funded proposals by CTSI Executive Committee

# Adjustments to process to advance CTS in pilots

- Ideation sessions included more explicit examples of CTS
- Changes to application to more explicitly have investigator explain why their proposal meets CTS definition/principles
- Increased focus on educating reviewers
- Pilot program leaders increasing attentiveness to CTS at each step of the process
- New step of review of proposals with CTSA PIs before Executive Committee meeting to ensure comfort with/confidence strength of CTS in pilots proposed for funding

# Example of CTS challenge

- Top ranked application from study section - impact of aging on immunotherapy response in setting of cancer
  - Investigator did not articulate clearly why CTS
  - Pilot lead and reviewers could articulate why CTS
- Elected to fund outside of NIH funds with institutional resources from CTSI and CCC
- Led to an explicit question in both pre-application and full application for investigator to articulate why it's CTS