

Based on what you heard today... A Path Forward

Katherine R. Tuttle, MD, FASN, FACP, FNKF

Executive Director for Research, Providence Health Care

Regional Principal Investigator, Institute of Translational Health Sciences

University of Washington

Disclosures

Therapeutics for diabetes and kidney disease:

- Eli Lilly and Company
- Boehringer Ingelheim
- Bayer
- Astra Zeneca
- Novo Nordisk
- Traverre

Striking a balance for immediate and long-term workforce needs

- Industry, government, academia - panelists
- Health professional societies
 - Professional education for therapeutic development and clinical trials
 - Targeted training programs in clinical and translational science
- Patient advocacy organizations
 - Training for patients as partners in research
 - Development of pathways for patients to contribute across the translational research spectrum
- Health Systems
 - Align clinical and research priorities around the greatest unmet needs
 - Recruit and train clinical researchers within the health systems

Priorities over next 5-10 years for the 2030 clinical trials workforce

- Team science ethos across specialties and disciplines
 - Preclinical to clinical science
 - Investigators, coordinators, data science, administrators
- Specific career pathways for team members
 - Role-specific training availability
 - Certificate programs to support career ladders
- Clear delineation of roles and responsibilities
 - Establishing professional expectations and boundaries
 - Setting achievable milestones for career progress

Priorities over next 5-10 years for the 2030 clinical trials workforce

- Opportunity for professional advancement
 - Equitable valuation for roles on the research team
 - Promotion based on objective criteria
- Non-traditional portals into research careers
 - Health care professionals, especially technical and clinic staff
 - Older adults seeking different directions

Lessons learned – What works?

- Remote work when possible and flexible schedules facilitate recruitment and retention
- In-house training increases role-specific skill sets and career satisfaction
- Teams within teams (lab groups, research coordinators, data center) promote collaboration and morale
- Investigator-led team meetings increase efficiency and sense of purpose

Lessons learned – What could we do better?

- Institutional level support should be more apparent to the actual research teams doing the work
- Infrastructure for research operations is often a second level priority for investment by health systems
- Recognition is often lacking for the critical role of researchers in developing therapeutics for unmet clinical needs
- Health policy could promote research at the point of care to increase access and equity in clinical trial participation

Practical Next Steps for the 2030 Drug Development Workforce

- Engage health professional societies to prioritize training programs for clinical and translational researchers
- Collaborate with advocacy groups to engage patients as active partners in the research enterprise
- Open new portals into clinical research careers, such as in-house recruitment and training, with opportunities for professional advancement
- Provide equitable support, recognition, and reward for all members of research teams in clinical and translational science
- Institutions and policy makers should prioritize research within health systems to align with clinical priorities and populations most affected