



Introducing the Advancing Clinical Trial Readiness (ACTR) Initiative

The Customer Experience Hub is excited to share the announcement of the Advancing Clinical Trial Readiness (ACTR) initiative, led by ARPA-H's Resilient Systems Office! The effort is the first of its kind at ARPA-H to focus on technologies that support clinical trials.

ACTR seeks to drive systemic improvements in clinical trial speed, efficiency, and representation. The core focus of the effort is to create the tools, network, and infrastructure necessary for decentralized and on-demand clinical trials that would enable 90% of eligible Americans to participate in clinical trials within 30 minutes of their home.

Learn more about the program at <https://www.customerexperiencehub.org/actr/>

ACTR's Technical Areas (TAs) include automatic trial data collection and standardization tools, research subject identification and engagement, and decentralized data curation and auditing. ACTR seeks proposals across three technical areas:

1. Automatic Clinical Trial Data Prompting & Extraction
2. Research and Participant Identification & Engagement
3. Trial-Grade Data Validation and Auditing

The initiative will kick off with a hybrid **Proposers' Day on January 16 at 10:00 a.m. ET** in the New Brunswick, N.J. area. Virtual and in-person attendees must register in advance.

Secure your attendance now! [Proposers' Day Registration Link](#)



OCULAB envisions a wearable for continuous monitoring of tear biomarkers

The Ocular Laboratory for Analysis of Biomarkers **OCULAB** is developing a wearable device to track tear biomarkers continuously with an initial focus on dry eye disease (DED). Unlike blood or urine tests, tears offer a non-invasive, clear medium to track hormones, vitamins, and proteins. ARPA-H OCULAB **Program Manager Calvin Roberts, M.D.** states, “OCULAB’s goal is to paint a fuller picture of a person’s health by monitoring their tears.”

This system integrates real-time biomarker tracking with precise medication dosing via a closed-loop delivery system. OCULAB aims to improve DED treatment for 20 million Americans and extend to other conditions, including hormonal and inflammatory disorders.

OCULAB seeks proposals in two key technical areas: developing a continuous monitoring nanosensor for the tear duct and creating a closed-loop therapeutic dosing device.

Interested participants are encouraged to attend the hybrid **Proposers' Day** on December 12, 2024, in Tampa, FL. Registration closes at noon ET on Thursday, December 5, 2024.

Solution Summaries Due January 27, 2025, 5:00 PM ET. Submit your best solutions today: <https://sam.gov/opp/8913135538804f3daa09966936ebbb40/view>



Introducing INDEX: Advancing AI in Medical Imaging

The ImagiNg Data EXchange ([INDEX](#)) program addresses a critical challenge in medical artificial intelligence (AI), which is the lack of diverse, high-quality imaging data to train accurate and unbiased algorithms. Without sufficient data, AI and machine learning tools for radiology and pathology may fall short of clinical needs.

INDEX aims to create a unified platform connecting data providers, users, and service providers to improve imaging data's quantity, quality, and diversity. By standardizing imaging data and enabling cloud-based model training, INDEX will support the development of robust, trustworthy AI tools that allow doctors to interpret medical images faster and with greater confidence, reducing physician burnout and expediting patient diagnoses.

“Medical imaging data is scarce, expensive, siloed, and not under a practical quality system,” explains INDEX [Program Manager Ileana Hancu, Ph.D.](#) “INDEX is not another database; instead, it seeks to be a single, affordable, and sustainable exchange platform with built-in tools to develop regulatory-ready algorithms. The platform intends to benefit the imaging ecosystem, from data providers to data users and patients.”

[Register now](#) to participate in the hybrid Proposers' Day on January 9, 2025, in Seattle, WA. This event will provide additional insights into program goals and opportunities for collaboration. Registration closes at noon ET on Thursday, January 2, 2025.

[View all ARPA-H Programs](#)

Learn about Biotech Funding at the December CX Hub Monthly Meeting

We are excited to share the conversation, *Strategic Funding for Breakthroughs – Driving Early-Stage Biotech Success*, led by Justin Yang. With a strong background in biotech

investing, corporate strategy, and product development, Justin brings a wealth of experience spanning preclinical research to late-stage commercialization.



Join the Customer Experience Hub Members Only Monthly Meeting on Tuesday, December 10 at 2:00 p.m. CT / 3:00 p.m. ET to learn from an expert in the intersection of business, biotechnology, and life sciences. Register now: <https://bit.ly/3ZpmorH>

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