Advancing Human Therapeutics, Health, and Knowledge

Center for Health + Technology
Our Mission

To advance human therapeutics, health, and knowledge through exceptional people, skillful research, and partnerships.

Our Story

The Center for Health + Technology [CHeT] is an academic research organization within the University of Rochester Medical Center. For more than three decades, CHeT has served as a worldwide leader in the conduct, planning, management, implementation, analysis, and rescuing of large multi-center clinical research studies.

Simultaneously, our innovative and novel technologies and outcome measures have shaped and improved how research is conducted and how therapies are evaluated. Our skilled team of consultants are readily available to provide guidance to academic institutions, pharmaceutical companies, technology firms, not-for-profit foundations, advocacy groups, and the federal government.

- CHeT Director: Chad Heatwole, MD, MS-CI
## CHeT Units

### CHeT - CTCC  
Clinical Trials Coordination Center  p.3

### CHeT - CMSU  
Clinical Materials Services Unit  p.5

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CTCC specializes in the development, management, and conduct of clinical research studies and provides a full range of research and clinical trial management support services that facilitate the conduct of clinical research from study concept through data analysis, publication, and FDA approval. Over the past 30 years, the CTCC has managed the conduct of more than 135 clinical research studies with 50+ sponsors (government, industry, & private) that enrolled over 40,000 research participants in the US, Canada, Europe, New Zealand and Australia.

Our clinical research expertise includes:

- **Study Start-Up** (including but not limited to the following): Novel and adaptive trial design; Protocol development and training; Contract facilitation and negotiation; Site selection based on key performance indications and research study datasets
- **Monitoring**: Remote, risk-based quality management, and on-site
- **Data Management**: Clinical Data Management System (21 CFR part 11 compliant); Data sharing, Visualization, and Data standards (CDISC, STDM, CDASH, CDE)
- **Clinical Trial Rescue and Recovery**: Provide services to revamp, refocus, and revitalize your clinical trial
- **Investigational New Drug/Investigational Device Exemption support**
- **Statistical analysis, modeling, and data mining**

CTCC has the infrastructure to conduct worldwide, high quality, regulatory-compliant, and multi-center clinical research:

- 60+ SOPs and guidelines for audit readiness
- Direct web-based data entry and ePRO
- Access to 100+ research study datasets
- Data visualization tools and templates
- Clinical Trial Management Systems (21 CFR part 11 compliant)
- 60+ SOPs and guidelines for audit readiness

CTCC achieves study start-up, enrollment, database lock and regulatory submission at an accelerated pace due to long-standing-relationships with clinical sites, competitive site start-up, disease specific expertise and many other unique experiences that will benefit your trial.
10 FDA Approvals

Over the last two decades, CHeT has supported clinical trials that have led to ten FDA-approval treatments. These include first-of-their-kind therapies for Parkinson’s disease, Huntington’s disease, periodic paralysis, and Friedreich’s ataxia.

2023  Valbenazine  
SPONSOR: Neurocrine Biosciences  
DISEASE: Chorea for Huntington’s disease  
BRAND NAME: Ingrezza

2023  Omaveloxolone  
SPONSOR: Reata Pharmaceuticals  
DISEASE: Friedreich’s Ataxia  
BRAND NAME: Skyclarys

2017  Deutetrabenazine  
SPONSOR: Teva Pharmaceuticals  
DISEASE: Huntington’s disease  
BRAND NAME: Austedo

2015  Dichlororphenamidam  
SPONSOR: Taro Pharma  
DISEASE: Primary Hypokalemic & Primary Hyperkalemic Periodic Paralysis  
BRAND NAME: Keveyis

2008  Tetrabenazine  
SPONSOR: Prestwick Pharmaceuticals  
DISEASE: Huntington’s disease  
BRAND NAME: Xenazine

2007  Rotigotine  
SPONSOR: Schwarz Pharma  
DISEASE: Parkinson's disease  
BRAND NAME: Neupro

2006  Rasagiline  
SPONSOR: Teva Pharmaceuticals  
DISEASE: Parkinson's disease  
BRAND NAME: Azilect

2006  Selegiline  
SPONSOR: Somerset Pharmaceuticals  
DISEASE: Parkinson’s disease  
BRAND NAME: Emsam

2003  Entacapone  
SPONSOR: Orion Corporation  
DISEASE: Parkinson’s disease  
BRAND NAME: Comtan

1997  Pramipexole  
SPONSOR: Pharmacia & Upjohn  
DISEASE: Parkinson’s disease  
BRAND NAME: Mirapex
The staff of CMSU have over 150 years of collective pharmaceutical experience and have serviced 15-20 multi-center studies concurrently, with an average study size of 200 participants, 25 sites and up to 5 years in duration. CMSU has provided regulatory support for 14 investigator initiated INDs, services to 90 drug and device multi-center clinical trials, and drug/device supplies to over 25,000 participants at more than 2,100 sites.

**CMSU offers comprehensive clinical trial supply services including:**

- Secondary packaging and labeling of clinical trial materials (drugs and devices)
- Package development, integrity, & performance testing
- Label design and printing using ClinPro LBL™ (21 CFR part 11 compliant)
- Storage options (room temperature and 2-8°C)
- Clinical supply chain strategy & management
- Secure environment
- Returns management/destruction
- Kit design to align with dispensing visits
- Creation of drug accountability logs and operations/pharmacy manuals
- Presentation of drug/device supplies at Investigator Meetings
- Management of expiration/retest dates

**The Comprehensive Resource for Clinical Trial Materials.**
The CHeT Outcomes team specializes in the development and validation of highly sensitive disease-specific, patient-reported and caregiver-reported outcome measures for use in therapeutic trials and FDA drug-labeling claims. Our group has developed and individually validated more than 200 disease-specific instruments and over 1000 subscales that quantify symptomatic disease burden during clinical trials. These instruments are capable of reliably measuring how a patient feels and functions, can reduce sample size requirements, are highly recommended by the NIH’s common data elements initiative, and are designed to detect meaningful changes in health prior to traditional and generic outcome measures.

Our group will collaborate with you to develop and fully validate a disease-specific outcome measure for any disease, and we provide consultation regarding outcome measure selection, use, optimization, and analysis.

Our instruments measure the multifaceted, patient-perceived disease burden in individual diseases. Our team of epidemiologists, biostatisticians, qualitative researchers, patient advocates, linguists, computer programmers, outcomes researchers, and physicians has developed patient-reported and caregiver-reported outcome measures for adult and pediatric populations, including instruments for the following diseases:

- Alzheimer's disease (AD)
- Adrenomyeloneuropathy (AMN)
- Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS)
- Cerebral cavernous malformation (CCM)
- Charcot Marie Tooth (CMT)
- Crohn's disease (CD)
- Duchenne muscular dystrophy (DMD)
- Facioscapulohumeral muscular dystrophy (FSHD)
- Spinal muscular atrophy (SMA)
- Friedreich's ataxia (FA)
- Huntington's disease (HD)
- Inclusion body myositis (IBM)
- Lung cancer (LC)
- Myotonic dystrophy Type 1 (DM-1)
- Myotonic dystrophy Type 2 (DM-2)
- Parkinson's disease (PD)
- Spinal-bulbar muscular atrophy (SBMA)
Virtual (or “site-less”) studies use video conferencing to conduct remote assessments, eliminate geographic barriers to participation, and allow for more efficient study conduct. New tools, such as smartphones and sensors, can be incorporated into clinical trials and enable objective and frequent assessments of participants in real-world settings.

**Bringing Research to Participants**

- Use new technologies to conduct a dozen studies with virtual visits that have reached more than 1500 participants throughout the country
- Recruit and retain a national cohort of clinical trial-ready participants in a longitudinal natural history study
- Amass a local and national registry of highly engaged participants known as project:brain health. Visit projectbrain.org to learn more

**High Frequency Assessments**

CHeT has also pioneered studies of smartphones, wearables, video analytics and invisible sensors that collect data inside and outside the clinic. Over 20,000 individuals from every state in the country participated in the mPower Parkinson’s disease smartphone study that CHeT helped support with colleagues at Sage Bionetworks. This study, along with ten others, have captured how individuals feel and function in their natural environment and provide new insights into the disease and assess the effectiveness of experimental and approved therapies.
CHeT has deployed the use of smartphones, wearables, and radio-wave sensors in fully-virtual studies to enable trial participation from anywhere. Soon, we will be taking these tools globally.

**WATCH-PD**
Evaluate the ability of sensors to assess features and progression of symptoms in early, untreated Parkinson’s disease. Sensor assessments at home and in the clinic are compared to the traditional in-person assessments.

- 132 Participants (82 PD, 50 Control)
- Collaborators: Biogen, Takeda

**SQUAD**
Assess the use of wearable devices, sensors, polysomnography, and video to detect and quantify scratching. Evaluate the relationship between patient-reported outcomes and scratching and sleep metrics from wearable sensors.

- 45 Participants
- Collaborators: Pfizer

**AT-HOME PD**
Evaluate clinical outcomes using video visits in a virtual national observational study. Capture real-world data using a Parkinson’s disease-specific smartphone application.

- 220 Participants
- Collaborators: Massachusetts General Hospital, Northwestern University, Sage Bionetworks, NIH

**VALOR-PD**
Use video visits to evaluate the longitudinal change in individuals at genetic risk (due to mutations in the LRRK2 gene) of Parkinson’s disease. Develop a cohort of participants ready for clinical trials of gene-directed therapies.

- 277 Participants
- Collaborators: 23andMe, NIH

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2019
1st use of wearable devices, sensors, polysomnography, and video to detect and quantify scratching in Atopic Dermatitis

2020
1st longitudinal multi-site digital technology study in early Parkinson’s disease

2021
1st multi-faceted PD study on disease progression, remote assessments, and digital tools for real world assessments

2022
1st study to identify PD signals at home using artificial intelligence-enabled detection

2023
1st phase III fully remote medical device study in Parkinson’s Disease
CHeT Analytics is developing strategies to reduce drug development costs and enhance clinical care for those living with neurodegenerative diseases. By leveraging one of the world’s largest repositories of clinical trial data for Parkinson’s and Huntington’s diseases, new insights are being made possible through predictive modeling and simulation.

Access to clinical trial and observational study data from over 100 studies

Extensive knowledge of developing clinical disease progression models of neurodegenerative diseases

Modeling capabilities for simulation of novel clinical trial design enrichment strategies in order to:

+ Reduce trial sample size
+ Truncate trial follow-up times
+ Decrease drug development costs

The Analytics Unit is developing tools for patients, clinicians, and caregivers to interact with the prediction models to help manage their disease in a data-driven manner. We believe creating such tools empowers patients and allows the entire care team to proactively plan for future scenarios that are based on real patients’ data of similar profiles.

We specialize in drug development rescue re-analysis. Our modeling and simulation methods are able to identify sub-populations of treatment responders and exposure-response relationships, if any such exist, through post-hoc analyses.

Let us help you make the most of the data you have collected.
CHeT Health aims to advance evidence-based health policies to help all individuals, reduce health disparities, inform government regulatory agencies, and augment the involvement of diverse populations during therapeutic trials.

**CHeT Health is**

**Generating Evidence**
Exploring the role of health policy in shaping health outcomes and reducing health disparities through primary and secondary data.

**Improving Diversity in Clinical Trials**
Improving understanding of barriers to participation in clinical trials in underrepresented communities and to improve the representation of participants across CHeT clinical research studies.

**Informing Action**
CHeT Health is leveraging knowledge within and outside of CHeT in the areas of health policy, equity, and government regulation and regulatory science to inform meaningful change and advance health equity.
# Key Clinical Research

Sample out of 200+ studies

## HUNTINGTON’S DISEASE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Study</th>
<th>Participants</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>KINECT-HD</strong></td>
<td>120 participants</td>
<td>A randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled phase 3 multi-center clinical trial using UHDRS Total Maximal Chorea (TMC) score to evaluate the safety and tolerability of valbenazine for participants with Huntington’s disease.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>FIRST-HD</strong></td>
<td>90 participants</td>
<td>A randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled study of SD-809 extended release for the treatment of chorea associated with Huntington’s disease.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TETRA-HD</strong></td>
<td>72 participants</td>
<td>A randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled, study of Tetrabenazine for the treatment of Huntington’s chorea.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>SIGNAL</strong></td>
<td>301 participants</td>
<td>A study in individuals with late prodromal and early manifest Huntington’s disease to access the safety, tolerability, pharmacokinetics, and efficacy of Pepinemab. (VX15/2503)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## PARKINSON’S DISEASE

<table>
<thead>
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<tr>
<td><strong>PPMI</strong></td>
<td>1,700 participants</td>
<td>The Parkinson's Progression Markers Initiative is a global, longitudinal observational study seeking markers of progression in Parkinson’s disease.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>DATATOP</strong></td>
<td>800 participants</td>
<td>A 2 x 2 factorial, double-blind, placebo-controlled, phase 3 multi-center clinical trial in participants with early Parkinson’s disease to assess the efficacy of Tocopherol and Deprenyl.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>NILO-PD</strong></td>
<td>76 participants</td>
<td>A randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled, phase 2 study to define the safety, tolerability, clinical and exploratory biological activity of the chronic administration of Nilotinib in participants with Parkinson’s disease.</td>
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</table>
OTHER NEUROLOGICAL DISORDERS

**HYPHOP**
- **42 participants**
- FDA Approval August 2015
- A randomized, controlled study of Acetazolamide vs. Dichlorphenamide vs. placebo in individuals with hyperkalemic and hypokalemic periodic paralysis.

**FACOMS**
- **1,300+ participants**
- FDA Approval February 2023
- A multi-center natural history and clinical outcome measures study in Friedreich’s Ataxia.

**CCM LONGITUDINAL**
- **400+ participants**
- A 12-month large scale, international, online longitudinal natural history study in Cerebral Cavernous Malformations.

**PRISM FM**
- **1,044 participants**
- An international cross-sectional study to ascertain the symptoms and symptomatic themes most important to individuals with fibromyalgia.

**PRISM ALS**
- **497 participants**
- A cross-sectional study to ascertain the symptoms and symptomatic themes most important to adults with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis.

**PRISM DMD**
- **113 caregiver participants**
- **87 adult & minor participants**
- A cross-sectional study to ascertain the symptoms and symptomatic themes most important to adults and minors with duchenne muscular dystrophy and caregivers of individuals with duchenne muscular dystrophy.

We have conducted additional clinical trials for other conditions, including dental caries, epilepsy, HIV, influenza, intracranial hypertension, stroke, and testicular cancer.
Leadership & Faculty

CHeT leverages the expertise of our faculty and leading experts in the fields of neurology, biostatistics, pharmacology, clinical trial operations, health equity, among others. Representing departments from across the University of Rochester Medical Center as well as external institutions and agencies, our faculty bring decades of experience to CHeT’s cutting edge research.

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