# Clinical and Translational Science Institute (UR-CTSI) Facilities and Resources

The University of Rochester Clinical and Translational Science Institute (UR-CTSI), part of the University of Rochester Medical Center (URMC) in Upstate New York, was one of the first 12 institutions across the country to be funded by the Clinical and Translational Science Award (CTSA) Program at the National Institutes of Health. Since its inception in 2006, the UR-CTSI has been continually funded by the CTSA program, which is now administered by the National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences.

The UR-CTSI has built upon the University of Rochester’s innovative research history and strength in sponsored research to bring translational clinical research findings into clinical practice, and to improve the health of, and healthcare delivery to, patients and populations.

The UR-CTSI offers an assortment of translational research workforce training programs. The Institute’s TL1 training program offers graduate students tailored training in translational science, and medical students an opportunity to get hands-on research experience. The KL2 Career Development program offers early career faculty funding to get their research careers off the ground. The UR-CTSI also recently launched the Research Methods Forum, which provides an interactive setting for investigators to present new and developing research ideas to multidisciplinary experts and potential collaborators and get feedback to help refine their research methods and funding applications.

UR-CTSI funding opportunities, such as the Pilot and Incubator Award Programs, have a very successful track record of nurturing individuals into successful translational researchers, and helping cutting edge research teams develop into self-sustaining research centers. The UR-CTSI offers programs and services – and is nationally recognized for its expertise – in bioinformatics, clinical research data integration, regulatory science support, network science, and training in research competencies.

The UR-CTSI is committed to transdisciplinary team science, fostering collaboration between groups of researchers who can approach a single research question from various points of view and with unique expertise. The UNYTE Translational Research Network links researchers to foster translational research across Upstate New York, while the Greater Rochester Practice Based Research Network helps researchers connect with primary care clinicians to improve research, patient care and outcomes. The UR-CTSI is also part of the Trial Innovation Network, a new collaborative national network, created as part of the national CTSA program, designed to address critical roadblocks in clinical trials and accelerate the translation of novel interventions into life-saving therapies.

As a national leader in community engagement, the UR-CTSI also connects researchers and community partners to maximize the relevance and impact of research. The Institute offers expertise and aid in recruiting participants for health research studies as well as Community Engagement Consultations that help researchers create partnerships with local communities.

The CTSI also houses the Clinical Research Center, an optimal setting for medical investigators to conduct safe, controlled, inpatient and outpatient studies of both children and adults, the Office of Regulatory Support, offers services to support investigators with the navigation of and compliance with a range of governing requirements. In addition to general assistance with requirements as they arise, expertise is provided to support specific FDA-regulated processes, including research involving experimental drugs and devices, as well as preclinical laboratory studies. The Research Help Desk, a one-stop shop for investigators to gain access to all University research resources and information, is also housed in the CTSI.

**Saunders Research Building**

The Saunders Research Building (SRB) is not only home to cutting-edge clinical and translational medicine, but the building itself represents an innovation in design. It was designed with an eye toward sustainability and the health of its occupants and represents a new model for creating an academic space that fosters interaction and collaboration among its occupants. The building also represents a new model of collaborative space. The interior details of the building – glass-walled offices, the height of partitions, shared common and conference rooms, and open staircases – were all designed to promote collaboration and innovation by encouraging the occupants to get out of their office interact with each other.

In addition to the UR-CTSI administration, the building also houses The National Center for Deaf Health Research and independent URMC research programs in cardiovascular disease, neurological disorders, cancer, pediatrics, emergency medicine, surgery, the Departments of Public Health Sciences and Biostatistics and Computational Biology, The Office for Human Subject Protection, the Research Subjects Review Board (UR’s IRB), and UR Ventures (UR’s office for technology transfer).