

THE YVONNE L. MUNN CENTER FOR NURSING RESEARCH

Yvonne L. Munn Nursing Research Grants 2023

Prepared by YLM Research Grant Committee

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Today's Discussion

- Background of Munn Grants
- Elements of preparing a proposal
- Why do this?
- Resources to support you

Background

- The Yvonne L. Munn Research Grant
 - Initiated in 1998
 - Recognition of MGH national nurse leader
- Grant developed to fund studies by MGH nursing staff to advance Nursing Science and improve outcomes for patients & families
- To date, 50 studies have been funded

Munn Research Projects

- Original Research: the only category of proposals accepted for Munn grants

Examples of Grants in Past Years....

- Malnutrition in Heart Failure Patients
- Prolonged Mechanical Ventilation & Weaning
- Evaluation of the Environment of Care
- Family-Centered Care at MGHfC (Pediatric)
- Delirium in Acute Care Patient Falls
- Use of Music as a Therapeutic Intervention
- Effect of Hatha Yoga during Stem Cell Transplant
- Constipation Among Hospitalized Older Adults
- Death and Dying in the ICU
 - Samples available for review upon request

Impact of Funded Studies

- **Direct practice changes**
 - Staff education: Drug calculator
 - Patient and family education
 - Practice change to allow families in ED to be present during resuscitation efforts
- **Publications and Presentations:**
 - Local, national, and international
- **Academic decisions:**
 - Return to school, dissertation topic, leadership roles in the organization, etc.

Applicant Eligibility

- RN at MGH
- Staff nurse role
- At least 20 hours/week, permanent, benefits-eligible employee
- Part-time nurses collaborate with a full-time co-PI
- Doctoral/postdoctoral RNs not eligible. Contact Munn Center for other funding options

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Project Eligibility

Patient Care Services Goals:

- Establish a comprehensive **talent strategy** for recruitment through career development and advancement to attract and retain the very best.
- Identify, establish and implement **consistent best practices** to streamline operations and reduce staff burden, while ensuring excellence in care and outcomes.
- Optimize **PCS governance and management processes** to allow PCS to respond nimbly and effectively to change while ensuring broad engagement and input.
- **Partner/advocate** with MGH and MGB most effectively to ensure achievement of system and PCS goals.

Munn Nursing Research projects must support the PCS strategic goals via original research.

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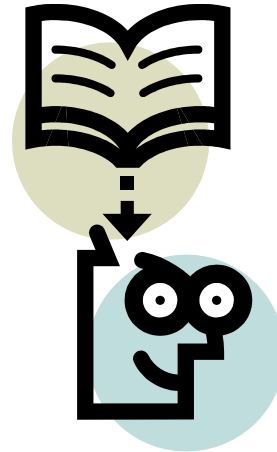
Eligibility, cont'd

- Mentorship
 - Each team must have a designated mentor to provide guidance and oversight and enhance rigor of the investigation. The mentor must be a PhD prepared nurse or a team of a PhD prepared and a DNP prepared nurse
- IRB approval and human subjects protection on-line training
 - Not required prior to submission
 - Required before beginning study

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So where do you begin?

***Contact Stacianne Goodridge at
SGOODRIDGE@MGB.ORG to schedule an
information session***



Also check out the website:

<http://www.mghpcs.org/munn>

Developing your Question

- This is the process of clearly defining your research question within your broad area of interest:
 - Idea emerges – I wonder if...? What is... ? Is there a difference between/among...?
 - Brainstorming with other colleagues, leaders, etc.
 - Literature review to understand what is already known on the topic and if there is a gap in the literature
 - Identify study variables
 - Refined research question is formulated

Research Question

- A refined research question will include:
 - Clearly identified variables
 - A specified population to be studied
 - The possibility of empirical testing

Sample question: “What is the impact of a nurse-driven coaching intervention on patients at discharge, return to hospital, and patient/nurse satisfaction?”

Questions about your Question

- Throughout the process, you should be asking yourself the following questions:
 - So what?
 - Is this work significant or meaningful?
 - How will it impact patient care?
 - Is this realistic for a two-year timeline?
 - How feasible is it given available time, resources, etc.?

Mentor

- Identify PhD or a PhD/DNP prepared nurse(s) as the research mentor
 - Needed with Letter of Intent submitted
- Mentors @ MGH & Munn Center
- No Mentor?
 - The Munn Nursing Research Grant Committee and Munn Center staff will help guide you

Letter of Intent

- Clear, concise expression of project goal
- Helps to clarify ideas, align support
- **Due 10/13/2023**
- Include a letter of support from your Nursing Director or Supervisor
- Identification of a PhD or PhD/DNP mentor(s)

The Letter of Intent Includes:

- **Name, credentials and contact information**
- Study Aims and Research Question
- Background/Significance
- Study Design/Analysis
- Team members (including roles/responsibilities of team members)
- Mentor's name (s) PhD-RN)or PhD/DNP RN and CV(s)
- Limit of two pages
- Your CV or Resume (not included in page limit)
- Attach letter of support from ND or supervisor

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2023 Proposal Dates

- December 8, 2023 (5pm): Proposals due
- January 18, 2024: Feedback to applicants following internal review
- February 3, 2024 (5pm): Final proposal with any requested revisions due
- February 2024: Reviewers rank proposals
- April 2024: Funding decision to applicants
- May 2024: Grants presented during Nurse Research Day

Formatting the Proposal

- Font of 12 pitch
- Single spacing
- Include word count for abstract (following last line of abstract)

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Elements of the Proposal

- See web site for specific proposal guidelines for
 - Original research
- All proposals must have a cover sheet, completed applicant checklist and budget approval
- Please include the original research checklist as the 1st page of your proposal

Application

- Application Includes:
 - Applicant name
 - Unit of employment
 - Mentor's name
 - Title of project

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Abstract

- Maximum of 300 words (include word count in proposal)
- Provides the first impression of your project
- Explains key elements of proposal (future tense)
- Includes summary of:
 - Purpose, importance and specific goals
 - Planned research design, methods and analysis
- Look at other abstracts for ideas
 - Previous Munn Grants
 - Published research articles
 - NIH RePORTER (Research Portfolio Online Reporting Tools)
(<http://projectreporter.nih.gov/reporter.cfm>)

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Specific Aims

(No more than 1 page)

- **Specific Aim** (general long-term objective)
 - e.g. Change practice, Innovate, Solve a problem
- Hypothesis or research question
 - Tells reader what details will be studied
 - Delineate variables of interest
 - Succinct description of topic to be studied
 - Frames the study focus

Background and Significance

(No more than 2 pages)

- **Clinical problem of interest**
- **Highlights of literature search**
 - What is & is not known
 - Areas of ambiguity or contradictions
- **Significance**
 - Potential contributions of study to:
 - Practice of nursing
 - Patient and family outcomes
 - MGH PCS Goals / Initiatives

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Research Design

(No more than 1 paragraph)

Explain the basic design of the study

Descriptive

Clinical trial

Comparative

Subject Selection

(1 page)

- **Who** will your study subjects be? **Where?**
 - Inclusion/Exclusion Criteria
 - Recruitment Procedures
 - How will potential subjects be identified
 - Description of recruitment material such as flyers, letter etc.
 - Who is responsible for identifying and recruiting subjects
 - When and where are potential subjects recruited
 - Methods used to enhance enrollment of diverse individuals and under-represented populations

Subject Enrollment

(1 Page)

- Describe pre-screening if applicable
- Describe step-by-step procedure for consenting
 - Where and when informed consent will be obtained
 - Separate description for adults/children as applicable
 - Process for obtaining consent in non-English speakers
 - Procedures to minimize undue influence to enroll
- Describe post-consent intervention assignment and randomization if applicable

Study Procedures

(3-page maximum)

- Describe study visits, procedures, data collection
 - Description of intervention if applicable
 - Description of data variables collected methods of assessment, including instruments being used (psychometrics if indicated)
 - Definition of outcomes primary and secondary
 - Renumeration as applicable

Expected risk, discomforts & benefits

- Brief description of any foreseeable risk or discomforts (1 paragraph)
 - includes psychological risks
 - risk related to privacy and confidentiality
- Describe expected benefits (1 paragraph)
 - to individual
 - to other individuals and society

Statistical Analysis

(1 paragraph)

- Plans for data management & analysis
 - Anticipated Statistical Methods if used
 - Indicate how analysis will be done
 - For each research question/hypothesis
 - Analysis is appropriate for design & question
 - Power analysis if indicated

Monitoring (1 page)

- Describe plan for monitoring to ensure safety
 - Brief description of how data will be reviewed
- Describe plan to for Quality Assurance
 - Brief description to assure validity and integrity of the data and adherence to IRB-approved protocol

Privacy and Confidentiality

(1 paragraph)

- Describe methods to protect privacy and maintenance of confidentiality

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Potential Contributions

(No more than 1 page)

- **Potential contributions:**
 - Improved nursing care of patients & families
 - Enhanced quality of life
 - Advanced nursing knowledge
 - Improved patient comfort/satisfaction
 - Empowered patients, families, caregivers
- **Dissemination plan:**
 - Presentations
 - Publications

Roles and responsibilities of study team members

- List team members for your project
 - List names (if known) and their specific responsibilities on the project for example see below:
 - PI: your name responsible for conduct of the study
 - Mentor: mentors name, responsible for advising and assisting with data analysis plan
 - Team member: nurse and other members of the health care team: responsible for helping to identify potential subjects
 - Co-Investigator: nurse and other members of the health care team: responsible for assisting with design of intervention

Budget Preparation

- Contact Stacianne Goodridge
 - MunnCenter@partners.org) or 617-643-0431
 - Download Munn Grant Budget template from grant webpage.
 - Receive guidance in approved expense categories
 - Request meeting with Stacianne Goodridge to draft budget
 - Provide documentation of meeting and copy of proposed budget with final submission (see template on website)

Attachments (no page limit)

- References
- Data collection instruments
- Informed consent forms (if IRB approved)
- IRB approval letter or exempt statement (as applicable)
- Mentor's biosketch
- Letter of support from PhD-RN Mentor
- Copy of budget & approval sign-off by Grant Manager
- Theoretical framework (optional)
- All must be submitted with final proposal
- Applicant checklist

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Resources to support your project

- Information session with Munn Grants Chair
- Your mentor
- Previous Munn Grants recipients
- Y.L. Munn Center for Nursing Research staff
- The Treadwell Library online link
- Your Nursing Director and CNS
- The Munn Research Grants Committee

Additional Resource

- **Clinical Research Program Education Unit**

The mission of the CREU is to provide educational opportunities for Mass General clinical investigators and their study staff by offering courses and seminars that address their unique and rapidly changing educational needs

<https://hub.partners.org/crp/about-us>

- **The MGH Research Institute intranet**

<http://mghresearch.partners.org/>

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The Final Decision

- Late February 2024
 - All applicants notified of funding decision
- May 2024
 - Public announcement / grant presentation on Research Day of Nurse Recognition Week
- June/July 2024
 - Each team meets with Review Committee co-chairs and Munn staff to review plans
- Two years to complete study
 - Biannual report to Munn Center (template and instructions provided)
 - IRB filings as required
- Expectation to present completed project: poster at Nursing Research Day, Nursing Research Grand Rounds, professional association, ultimate goal of publication in professional journal

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Take-away: Contacts for Questions

- Generic “how-to” questions:
 - Stacianne Goodridge (sgoodridge@mgb.org, MunnCenter@partners.org or 617-643-0431)
- Proposal details:
 - Katie Fitch , MS, RN (kfitch@partners.org; 724-8015)
 - Lillian Ananian (lananian@partners.org or 726-2307)
- Mentor issues:
 - Katie Fitch, RN, MS
 - Lillian Ananian, PhD, RN
 - Diane Carroll, PhD, RN, FAHA, NFESC, FAAN (dcarroll3@mgh.harvard.edu; 724-4934)
- Budget questions:
 - Stacianne Goodridge (munncente@partners.org or 617-643-0431)