

Patient Research Engagement Board at Penn Medicine

Frequently Asked Questions

The Patient Research Engagement Board at Penn Medicine is an initiative of the Community Engagement and Research Core (CEAR Core) of the Institute for Translational Medicine and Therapeutics (ITMAT) at the University of Pennsylvania. The CEAR Core is directed by Karen Glanz, PhD, MPH.

What kind of proposals should be submitted to the Board?

Proposals at any stage of the research life cycle can be submitted to the Board for review. Proposals should have a connection to the Penn Medicine hospital system and involve Penn Medicine patients and/or family members of patients as research participants.

How do researchers submit proposals to the Board to review?

Proposals should be emailed to Jill McDonald (jillmcd@pennmedicine.upenn.edu). The email should include your completed Request for Review form, and when applicable, the submitted grant or IRB application for the research project.

What is the review process? How long do reviews take?

CEAR Core staff will review your submission to make sure all the required information is included before sending it to the Board members to review. The review process is conducted by email and an online survey. It is anticipated that the average review time will be three weeks.

What type of feedback does the Board provide?

Board members can provide feedback on all aspects of the research proposal. Typically reviews will include feedback on recruitment methods, compensation plan, potential risks or benefits to participants, survey questions, and the overall relevance of the research question to patients and families. Specific questions or areas for review/input can be included as needed.

Can the Board help with anything else?

At this time the primary mission of the Board is to provide feedback on submitted proposals. However, if you are a PCORI researcher in need of patient research partner(s), CEAR staff can help facilitate a connection with patient members of the Board and/or contacts for the patient group you are seeking. Depending on the level of interest this might become an official part of the Board's mission in the future.

Questions? Contact Jill McDonald, CEAR Core Project Coordinator (jillmcd@pennmedicine.upenn.edu).