

This document has been prepared to help Investigators think about resources available to their study. Investigators should edit each paragraph to fit the resources needed in their study. Investigators will need to request similar descriptions from off-campus sites where research will occur.

FACILITIES AND OTHER RESOURCES – Michigan State University

Environment – Contribution to Success:

The facilities and other resources available to the PI and the research team at the primary performance site include everything needed to undertake and complete the proposed research project successfully. [discuss location of offices, research staff, supporting units, community sites, how will communication be handled among distant sites/staff, how does intellectual environment contribute.] The intellectual environment is rich with other extramurally funded investigators who are doing work that is complementary to what is proposed here. These facilities, together with those described for the other project/performance sites (see following descriptions), collectively provide a scientific environment that is strongly supportive of the proposed research and, therefore, success of the project.

Facilities:

Laboratory - [discuss or indicate "Not applicable"]

Animal – [discuss or indicate "Not applicable"]

Clinical – [discuss or indicate "Not applicable"]

Computer – Key personnel working on this project have desktop computers, which will be used for work on this project, in their offices. Each computer contains Windows, virus protection software and Office Professional. The Statistician's computer also contains various specialty statistical software packages such as SAS, HLM and Stat Transfer. [redacted] desktop computers and [redacted] laptop computers will be purchased for use by staff assigned to this project. Each of these computers will be loaded with Windows, Office and virus protection. All computers will have access to the internet. Skype for Windows (business version) telecommunication software is on hand to facilitate communication between MSU staff and staff at each performance site. The combination of these information technologies contributes to the potential for success by assuring both efficient data collection and optimal communication among members of the research team.

Office – All MSU key personnel have assigned private office space within their College/Department offering approximately 110 square feet of work space. Each office is equipped with a desk, a task chair, two 2-drawer file cabinets, a bookcase, overhead storage, a telephone and hardwired high-speed access. Research space for staff will be provided within the College of Nursing (CON) Research Center, near the Nursing PI office. Approximately [redacted] square feet will be assigned for completion of this project, which contains [redacted] workstations equipped with one 2-drawer file cabinet, overhead storage, and a telephone. Additionally, the CON Research Center contains six private rooms dedicated for completion of telephone interviews, four conference rooms, and a fax, copy, scanning machine. "Touch Down" stations are provided for faculty/staff who attend meetings in the Research Center and need access to work space between meetings.

Other Resources -

- MSU College of Nursing - Post-award administrative support is provided through the Nursing Research Center. The Research Center works with College of Nursing faculty and PhD students to develop and maintain internal controls to ensure compliance with federal regulations governing grants and federal contracts. Specifically, Research Center staff review expenditures to ensure they are allowable and appropriate, monitor spending in relation to the approved budget, assist with personnel management, monitor IRB and training compliance for all staff, and coordinate with the University Contract & Grants Office. Quarterly meetings are conducted with all Principal Investigators.

Regular Data Safety & Monitoring meetings are conducted for all funded clinical trials. Committee members include the Research Center Coordinator, Associate Dean for Research, two Nursing research faculty and a Statistician.

- MSU Institution Review Board (IRB) – The MSU IRB operates to protect the rights and welfare of people who volunteer to participate in human subject research and is HRPP accredited. The IRB is responsible for reviewing all research for ethical standards, scientific merit, and regulatory compliance. IRB members include faculty and physicians of several disciplines as well as community representatives. The IRB staff is available to give guidance and to facilitate review of research studies. The MSU IRB Federal-wide Assurance number is 00004556.
- Health Information Technologies (HIT): HIT is responsible for providing technology infrastructure for this project, including access to and regular maintenance of network servers, email, and end-user support for supported hardware and software. A share drive will be established and maintained specifically for staff assigned to this project. All hardware and software will be ordered through and installed by HIT technicians.
- Biomedical, Research and Informatics Center (BRIC): The Biomedical Research & Informatics Core (BRIC) was established at MSU in July 2001, the service unit within the MSU Clinical and Translational Science Institute (CTSI), and has supported over 150 clinical research protocols to date. The mission of BRIC has two principal elements:

Comment [CM1]: Remove this paragraph if you are not using BRIC services.

1. To support the development of funded research by MSU investigators in the Colleges of Human Medicine, Natural Science, Nursing, Osteopathic Medicine, Social Science, and Veterinary Medicine; The primary targeted funding sources are NIH and other Federal funding sources. Research targeting other funding sources is also supported.
2. To support the execution of large scale studies by providing state-of-the-art research informatics solutions.

BRIC also seeks to strengthen ties between the colleges and their statewide networks of teaching and clinical sites by helping to involve those sites in clinical research. Extramural support has allowed continued growth of BRIC's core capabilities including an awarded federal grant to serve as the Data Coordinating Center for the largest epidemiological study ever on autism (Data Coordinating Center for U10 DD000007-03), as well as many other large, multi-site, NIH-funded studies nationwide. Its innovative Integrated Multi-Mode Data Capture technology development plan has positioned BRIC to provide the type of research informatics support necessary for studies in resource-limited settings. Currently, BRIC is acting as the Data Coordinating Center for multiple overseas studies throughout Africa and in the Caribbean and continues to develop method to overcome the infrastructure and technologic challenges presented abroad.

BRIC provides best-in-class informatics support for the operation and administration of the MSU-CTSI. This includes research information databases and web sites to provide information and foster communication among MSU clinical and translational investigators. Vanderbilt University (VU), with collaboration from Clinical & Translational Award (CTSA) consortium of institutional partners, has developed the Research Electronic Data Capture (REDCap) for electronic collection and management of research and clinical trial data.

The REDCap system provides secure, web-based applications that are intuitive web-based interface for users to enter data and flexible enough to be used for various research areas. The use of study-specific data dictionaries, adaptive logic, and real time validation rules features in REDCap with assistance from the BRIC informatics team results in well-planned data collection strategy for individual research studies. Because REDCap is web-based, users with appropriate permissions can access the system from anywhere in the world with an Internet connection.

The REDCap system also provides the standard export mechanism to a variety of types of common statistical packages (SPSS, SAS, Stata, R/S-Plus). This allows the Principal Investigator (PI) to generate data that are truly independent of the data entry method, thus generating usable, collaborative datasets, and outcome analysis.

***NOTE: For Early Stage Investigators (ESIs),** describe institutional investment in the success of the investigator, e.g., resources for classes, travel, training; collegial support such as career enrichment programs, assistance and guidance in the supervision of trainees involved with the ESI’s project, and availability of organized peer groups; logistical support such as administrative management and oversight and best practices training; and financial support such as protected time for research with salary support. See http://grants.nih.gov/grants/new_investigators/.

