

# Using Feasibility to Select the Best Studies for your Organization

Nikki Mason, MS, CIP

Director, Office of Clinical Research (OCR)

MEDICINE *of* THE HIGHEST ORDER



**CTSI**  
CLINICAL & TRANSLATIONAL  
SCIENCE INSTITUTE

# Services Available from OCR

- [OnCore](#)
- [Participant Payments](#)
- [Research Financial Services](#)
- [Feasibility Services](#)

[Clinical & Translational Science Institute](#) / [Clinical Research](#) / Office of Clinical Research

Make a Gift

## Office of Clinical Research



The Office of Clinical Research (OCR) provides tools and services to help University of Rochester Medical Center faculty and staff with the administration of clinical trials. By streamlining the processes behind clinical research, we hope to empower our clinical research teams to do more high-impact clinical trials that can advance clinical discovery and offer patients and community members more options and opportunities. We also make it easier for researchers to comply with clinical trial rules and regulations and produce successful outcomes.

### Request Services

[Feasibility](#)

[Financial](#)

### Request Access

[OnCore](#)

[Participant Payments](#)

### Questions?

Email

[Clinical\\_Research@URM](mailto:Clinical_Research@URM)

[C.Rochester.edu](http://C.Rochester.edu)

# OCR Feasibility Assessment Services

The free [OCR feasibility process](#) can be requested by anyone!

There are a series of assessments, starting with the simplest and moving to the most complex

1. GO/NO GO checklist - *if the response is GO then move to*
2. Weighted Risk Assessment - *if there is a favorable score then move to, if determined to be needed*
3. Break-even Analysis - *studies that need a deeper dive and clearer financial projections and information*

## Go / No Go Checklist

Department

Protocol

- Indirect no lower than
- No more than 15%
- Study does not have and v  
ie. Greenphire ents
- Allows for IDS pharmacy fee(s)
- If the sponsor is a company we have no record of doing business with in the past, perform quick assessment of financial health of the company (e.g., ask for their financial statements)



# Weighted Feasibility Risk Assessment

Under	Reference	Low (1 point)	Medium (2)	High (3)	1,
Sponsor info (c.)	Previous experiences with CRO/Sponsor (investigator side) Yes/no	More than 10 y	5-10 years	less than 5 years	
Sponsor info (c.)	Previous experiences with CRO/Sponsor (OCR Side) Yes/no	More than 10 y	5-10 years	less than 5 years	
	Phase	IV - Postmarket	II/III	Pilot or I	
Drug or device (i)	First in Human	<b>No</b>	NA	<b>Yes</b>	
Drug or device (i)	FDA Approved/CMS Approval/ Category B letter from FDA	<b>Yes</b>	NA	<b>No</b>	
Competing trials (j)	Competing trials? (Yes/No)	<b>No</b>	NA	<b>Yes</b>	
Enrollment (k)	Prior enrollment history	<b>Yes</b>	NA	<b>No</b>	
Enrollment (k)	Potential Population through TriNetX	More than 100	10-100	Less than 10	
Patient info (l)	Number of patients with study indication	More than 100	10-100	Less than 10	
Patient info (l)	Source of patients (i.e., TriNetX, clinic, referral, pre-admission, testing, in	Clinic, Inpatient	Outpatient, te	Referral, TriNetX, p	
Patient info (l)	Inclusion criteria	Low criteria/mc	Middle of the	Higher # of criteria:	
Patient info (l)	Exclusion criteria	Low criteria	Midde of the r	Higher # of criteria:	
Patient info (l)	Potential Burden to subject	Low burden	Moderate bur	Very burdenson, ov	
Patient info (l)	Benefit/risk	More Benefit	Mutual benefi	More risk	
Principal Investigator	Prior experiences	More than 10 y	3-10 years	less than 3 years	
PI Availability	Principle Investigator	Very available	Judging a few	Not very available	
Co- or Sub-Investigators	Sub or Co- I	More than 10 y	3-10 years	less than 3 years	
Coordinating Staff Avail	Coordinating staff	Very available	Judging a few	Not very available	
Can Coordinating staff t	coordinating staff	<b>Yes</b>	Maybe	<b>No</b>	

# Break-even Analysis

The Break-even Analysis Feasibility tool consists of three domains:

(1) Protocol Related

(2) Financial

(3) Department Specific



# Break-even Analysis

## Preliminary Breakeven Analysis

Number of Period: 1			
Revenue		URMC	Sponsor
Funding Source	Industry		
Schedule of Events Revenue		\$41,806	\$41,806
Expected Subject Recruitment		2	2
Study Start Fees		\$3,972	\$3,972
Indirect Rate		35%	35%
Indirect Costs		\$14,632	\$14,632
Total Per Subject Costs		\$60,410	\$60,410
Total Revenue Forecasting		\$120,820.20	\$120,820.20

The sponsor has time constraints placed on Study Start Up Fees. We are assuming the later scenario and have included \$3972.00 for the start-up fees.

Variable Costs		
Cost Per Screen Failure		\$1,618.00
Patient Recruitment		\$410.00
Patient Reconsent		\$126.00

The sponsor has a recruitment max of \$820.

### Results:

Breakeven Point (units):

1

Sales volume analysis:

Subject Recruitment  
 Subject Per Visit Cost  
 Fixed costs per period  
 Variable costs  
 Total costs  
 Total sales  
 Net profit (loss)

	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	2
Subject Recruitment	60,410.10	60,410.10	60,410.10	60,410.10	60,410.10	60,410.10	60,410.10	60,410.10	60,410.10	60,410.10	60,410.10
Subject Per Visit Cost	73,704.44	73,704.44	73,704.44	73,704.44	73,704.44	73,704.44	73,704.44	73,704.44	73,704.44	73,704.44	73,704.44
Fixed costs per period	0.00	430.80	861.60	1,292.40	1,723.20	2,154.00	2,584.80	3,015.60	3,446.40	3,877.20	4,308.00
Variable costs	73,704.44	74,135.24	74,566.04	74,996.84	75,427.64	75,858.44	76,289.24	76,720.04	77,150.84	77,581.64	78,012.44
Total costs	0.00	12,082.02	24,164.04	36,246.06	48,328.08	60,410.10	72,492.12	84,574.14	96,656.16	108,738.18	120,820.20
Total sales	(73,704.44)	(62,053.22)	(50,402.00)	(38,750.78)	(27,099.56)	(15,448.34)	(3,797.12)	7,854.11	19,505.33	31,156.55	42,807.77
Net profit (loss)											

### Scenario Analysis:

Please note: This analysis does not factor in the time-constraints or accelerated bonuses mentioned in the Accelerated Start-Up and Screening sections. We calculated the estimated FTE cost (overhead) of all personnel and have included it as fixed costs.

### Based on this analysis:

If no subjects are recruited into the study, the study will have an estimated deficit of **-\$73,704.00**

If subjects are recruited but not enrolled in the study it will still run at a deficit estimated between **-\$50,350 and -\$62,028**

In order to break even, the study will have to recruit and enroll a minimum of two subjects. We can potentially break-even with the enrollment of one subject however this depends on the recruitment of one additional subject in parallel.

Screening and Initiation Fees

Lab Activation Fee

SM (Site Initiation Visit)

\$1,680.00

\$1,251.00

# 2022 OCR Research Opportunities

**Research Opportunities  
Received**

259

**Research Opportunities  
Accepted**

18

**Research Opportunities  
Declined**

9

declines due to staffing,  
resources, competing trials,  
not interested



# Next Steps

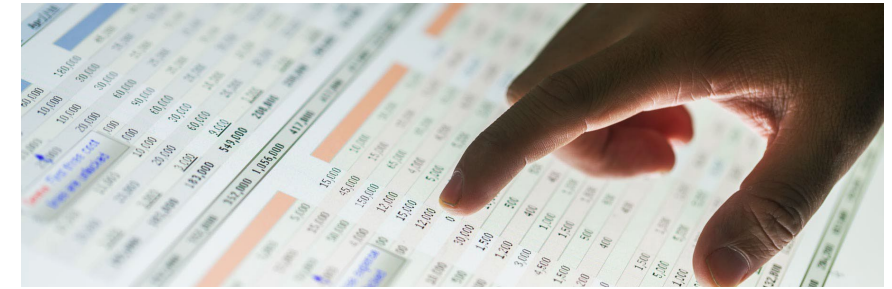


## Department engagement

- Clinical Trial Liaison Proposal
  - Quarterly Meetings
  - Identification of areas of strategic importance for research
  - Identification/Outreach to junior investigators
- Quarterly Reports
  - Summary of Clinical Research Opportunities
  - OnCore Metrics



# Research Financial Services



- **Pre-Award Services:** Medicaid/Medicare coverage, analyze the study cost and timeline, negotiate budgets with sponsors, and enter budget information into OnCore.
- **Post-Award Services:** Invoicing, revenue reconciliation, review of subject accounts, Participant Payments, and more.

# OCR Finance Service Line ROI

- Data collected on 21 of the OCR serviced accounts
  - Pre-award
    - Baseline vs Final Negotiated Budget

Initial Sponsor Budget	OCR Negotiated Budget	ROI
\$864,585	\$2,381,675	\$1,517,090



CTSI

CLINICAL & TRANSLATIONAL  
SCIENCE INSTITUTE

MEDICINE *of* THE HIGHEST ORDER

How to reach the Office of Clinical Research:  
[Clinical\\_research@urmc.Rochester.edu](mailto:Clinical_research@urmc.Rochester.edu)

thank you!