REQUEST FOR SECONDARY ANALYSIS
TO PUBLICATION (SAP) AWARDS
Open to all Disciplines and Departments

Overview and Available Data

The Rural Drug Addiction Research (RDAR) Center through this Secondary Analysis to Publication (SAP) Award aims to increase the use of existing secondary data to better understand substance use patterns, associated characteristics, and outcomes in Nebraska. To this end, we seek to support proposals that analyze, present, and publish on data sets collected by its research core – the Longitudinal Networks Core (LNC). At present, there are two secondary data sets available to be supported by this SAP Award: 1) the Regional Health Cohort (RHC) data and 2) the substance use and gambling data sponsored by the RDAR Center in the Nebraska Annual Social Indicators Survey (NASIS). More information about each is provided below:

1) The LNC fields the **RHC** Study, which collects extensive behavioral data on substance use from individuals actively using drugs. Individuals are recontacted over time (every 6-9 months) for follow-up interviews and smart-phone data collection procedures. The current baseline survey includes information on basic demographics, community and social support, individual networks, drug accessibility and use patterns, drug overdose experiences, knowledge of overdose prevention resources such as naloxone, substance use treatment history, likelihood of future service utilization, psychological distress, unwanted sexual activity, adverse childhood experiences, mental health, physical health, access to care, criminal justice involvement, etc. Investigators have opportunities to utilize the baseline survey (with more than 1,000 participants) as well as longitudinal data for up to four time points for select participants. More information can be found on our website (https://rdar.unl.edu/regional-health-cohort).

2) The LNC has contributed to the **NASIS**, a statewide mail survey with a random sample of Nebraska addresses. Recent NASIS surveys (2020, 2021, 2022, 2023) have been expanded to include a sampling plan of 8,000 addresses evenly spread across eight unique strata (six for rural Behavioral Health Regions and two for Omaha and Lincoln) with response rates ranging from 27.7% to 18.2% across the years. Questions were added on substance use, stigma, gambling, and Narcan access. This stratified design also allows investigators to test differences between urban and rural areas of the state. The design also provides a sufficient sample size to look at differences between the two major urban areas of Nebraska (i.e., Omaha and Lincoln) and compare them to multiple rural areas. Investigators have opportunities to link NASIS data to other statewide projects for even more innovative analyses. More information can be found on our website (https://rdar.unl.edu/lnc-nasis).

Purpose, Focus Areas, and Financial Support

A successful SAP application will propose a comprehensive secondary data analysis project that aligns with the goal of this funding opportunity and the *mission* of the RDAR Center to apply complementary approaches across disciplines to better understand the causes and consequences of substance use and identify new avenues to address substance use problems. A comprehensive project should include three major sections. 1) A hypothesis driven research question that uses the RHC and/or NASIS data sets; 2) a plan to present the findings at a US academic conference; 3) and a timeline for submitting the work for publication in a peer-reviewed journal.

To support this work, the RDAR Center will cover LNC service center fees for data access for up to 2 years ($5,000), support the travel expenses for one individual to present the research at a conference located in the US (up to $4,000), and pay the post-review fees for open access if required for the peer-reviewed manuscript (costs greater than $3,500 must receive prior approval). In some disciplines, a subset of journals requires a fee before the peer-review process. This charge will not be covered by this award.

Eligibility Criteria

Current full-time faculty eligible to receive NIH funding at a participating institution can apply for this award. Participating institutions include the University of Nebraska at Kearney, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, University of Nebraska Medical Center, and University of Nebraska at Omaha. Per NIH policy, current Research Project Leaders (either through RDAR or from another IDeA grant) and members of RDAR's Mentoring, Engagement, and Outreach Workgroup (MEOW) are ineligible to serve as a PI. This does not exclude them from participating as collaborators or co-authors.

Application Submission Process

Application documents should use standard NIH formatting that includes single spaced with 11-point font (Arial or Georgia) and 0.5" margins. The full application should be submitted as a single PDF file through the NURamp module for RDAR Secondary Analysis to Publication Award. Applications will be accepted and reviewed on a rolling basis (no standard deadline). The PDF application must include the following sections (in this order):

1. Biosketch. The biosketch should be included for the Principal Investigator (PI). Use the standard NIH format abbreviated to two pages. Essential sections include a personal statement that describes the PI's expertise in secondary data analyses, experience in the proposed area of scientific inquiry, and past/current funding (see https://grants.nih.gov/grants/forms/biosketch.htm).

2. Project Narrative. The proposal narrative is limited to no more than two pages. The narrative should address the three components of a comprehensive secondary data analysis project listed earlier. As a starting point in the narrative, use a *two-year or less timeline* from data access to publishing. We recognize the need for flexibility given lack of control in the peer-review process and the possible need for extensive revisions or to submit to a different journal.

   - Describe the hypotheses to be tested, a brief background that highlights the scientific premise for the hypotheses, the LNC secondary data source(s), and a list of measures needed to test the hypotheses.
   - Provide an example of a US conference where initial findings could be presented. Why this example conference? How will it enhance the visibility of the PI's research efforts and the mission of the RDAR Center?
   - Detail a potential peer-reviewed outlet for the research and its fit for the project. How does publishing in this journal contribute to the PI's ability to compete for NIH or other external funding related to substance use and misuse?
   - Include benchmarks and a timeline for achieving the three components of this SAP award.

Application Review

Once your proposal is fully routed in NuRamp, it will be reviewed by the LNC leadership team for responsiveness to this call for proposals, fit to the RDAR mission, and potential overlap with existing funded projects. Recommendations for funding will be made to RDAR Center leadership. The goal is to provide notification of the intent to fund within 45 days of the submission. Awards will be made once all compliance approvals have been received. All applicants will receive written feedback. Revised proposals can be resubmitted for consideration. We recommend discussing the potential revisions with a member of the LNC leadership team (see https://rdar.unl.edu/lnc-leadership-team for more information).

Special Requirements, Institutional Approvals, and Reporting

Budget. The applicant does not need to include a budget. As detailed earlier, the costs are prescribed with the funds allocated at the time the benchmark is met. Data access ($5,000); Conference travel and presentation (up to $4,000); Open access fees ($3,500 with preapproval if cost is higher).

Compliance. Investigators will be required to provide documentation of human subjects approval or a determination that the research is not considered human subjects.

Publication Policy Requirement. Projects that use RHC data will be required to offer RHC data collection staff a chance to contribute to the project and be authors on the final paper. More details are available on the LNC website (https://rdar.unl.edu/regional-health-cohort).

Annual Reporting. Given RDAR Center reporting requirements to NIH, SAP investigators must submit a written annual progress report. Continued availability of the funds is contingent upon favorable review by the LNC and RDAR leadership team concerning project progress.

Center Participation and Engagement. SAP awardees are strongly encouraged to participate in Center sponsored seminars, workshops, symposia, and other professional development opportunities (e.g., summer grant writing workshop).

Additional Information

More information about the RDAR Center, the LNC, and the available secondary data sets can be found at https://rdar.unl.edu/ or the weblinks provided earlier in this announcement. Please reach out to LNC Co-Director Dr. Patrick Habecker (phabecker2@unl.edu) with any remaining questions regarding the data sets or overlap between your proposed topical area and existing Center-sponsored projects.