

IN DEPTH WITH THE *All of Us*™ RESEARCH PROGRAM

Previously known as the Precision Medicine Initiative, the *All of Us*™ Research Program is the re-branded version, with a renewed intention to be more inclusive of our tremendously diverse nation and to reflect on the very nature of this project, an effort of patients, clinicians, researchers, technicians and care providers all coming together towards one goal. As we unite towards the concept of individualized care, we must take a few steps back and investigate what it will take to get there. There will be more than one million patient volunteers throughout our country, who will be donating their time, biospecimens, and medical records, for the greater good of understanding not just the potential origins of disease, but how their genetics and lifestyle might contribute to disease. Likewise, there will be just as many individuals assisting in collecting and delving into the data, and those whose task it is to keep all of this data secure. This is no easy feat.

The *All of Us*™ Research Program is integral to the future of medicine. From this initiative, we hope to discover new biomarkers, more accurately estimate disease risk, understand and develop solutions to health disparities, further the construct of targeted therapies, and inspire and educate study participants by providing them with the tools and technologies to advance their own health.

The initial data collected will include questionnaires, electronic health records, a baseline physical exam, blood and urine samples, mobile wearable technologies, and geospatial/environmental data. It has been determined that as the science and technology develop, so will data collection, provided that security systems are in place to manage the wealth of data supplied within.

UIC stands to be a stronghold in this initiative, but we must credit our partners, Northwestern University and the University of Chicago, as well as the other institutions and medical centers that will be facilitating this initiative. The Mayo Clinic will be shepherding the Biobank responsibilities. Vanderbilt University Medical Center, with the Broad Institute and Verily, will be the Data and Research Center. Scripps Research Institute with Vibrant Health will navigate the Patient Technologies Center, which is the participant portal that will reach and enroll direct volunteers, such as Walgreens, WebMD and other similar outlets. Finally, there are the Health Care Provider Organizations (HCPOs), and this is where UIC plays a significant role. As an HCPO, we will be recruiting patients as volunteers to participate in this research. UIC is part of the Illinois Precision Medicine Consortium (IPMC) with Northwestern University and the University of Chicago, and the IPMC is one of eight Regional Medical Centers (RMCs) throughout the United States. Please [click here](#) for more information about the RMCs.

Also included within the HCPOs are Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) and the Veterans Affairs Medical Centers. As a member of the IPMC, UIC will be an active partner in recruitment with an outstretched arm to our regional affiliates at Southern Illinois University Healthcare; Mount Sinai Hospital, Chicago; Order of St. Francis Medical Center, Peoria; Memorial Medical Center, Springfield; Blessing Health System, Quincy; Sarah Bush Lincoln Health Center, Mattoon; our Mile Square FQHC System, and the Jesse Brown VA Facility.

Finally, the IPMC has developed a community participatory advisory committee to engage those community stakeholders, partners and participants that will be critical to this initiative and to ensure that all voices are at the table. We are so proud to stand alongside our partner institutions in the Illinois Precision Medicine Consortium and as part of *All of Us*™ Research Program to help lead this charge. Even as fractions of it continue to be crafted, we look forward to taking the hand of our community and leading them down our path, to connect them to this game-changing project.

Dr. Robert Winn from UIC, **Dr. Philip Greenland** from Northwestern University and **Dr. Habibul Ahsan** from University of Chicago are the Principal Investigators for the IPMC. Also representing UIC are **Drs. Martha Daviglius** and **Denise Hynes** from the UIC College of Medicine, both of whom are co-principal investigators on the grant. **Drs. Jerry Krishnan, Maria Argos, Frederick Behm, Ben Gerber, Timothy Johnson, Robin Mermelstein, Terry Vanden Hoek** and **Karriem Watson** from the UIC College of Medicine and **Dr. Marcelo Bento Soares** from the University of Illinois at Peoria College of Medicine and **Dr. Wiley Jenkins** from the Southern Illinois University School of Medicine are co-investigators on the grant.

Sources: Parmet, Sharon. "UIC to Enroll Participants in President's Precision Medicine Initiative." *UIC to Enroll Participants in President's Precision Medicine Initiative | UIC News Center*. The Board of Trustees of the University of Illinois, 7 July 2016. Web. 21 Dec. 2016. <<https://news.uic.edu/uic-to-enroll-participants-in-presidents-precision-medicine-initiative>>.

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