



# Recruitment Planning for Protocol and Grant Development:

A Practical Foundation for Clinical Trial Success

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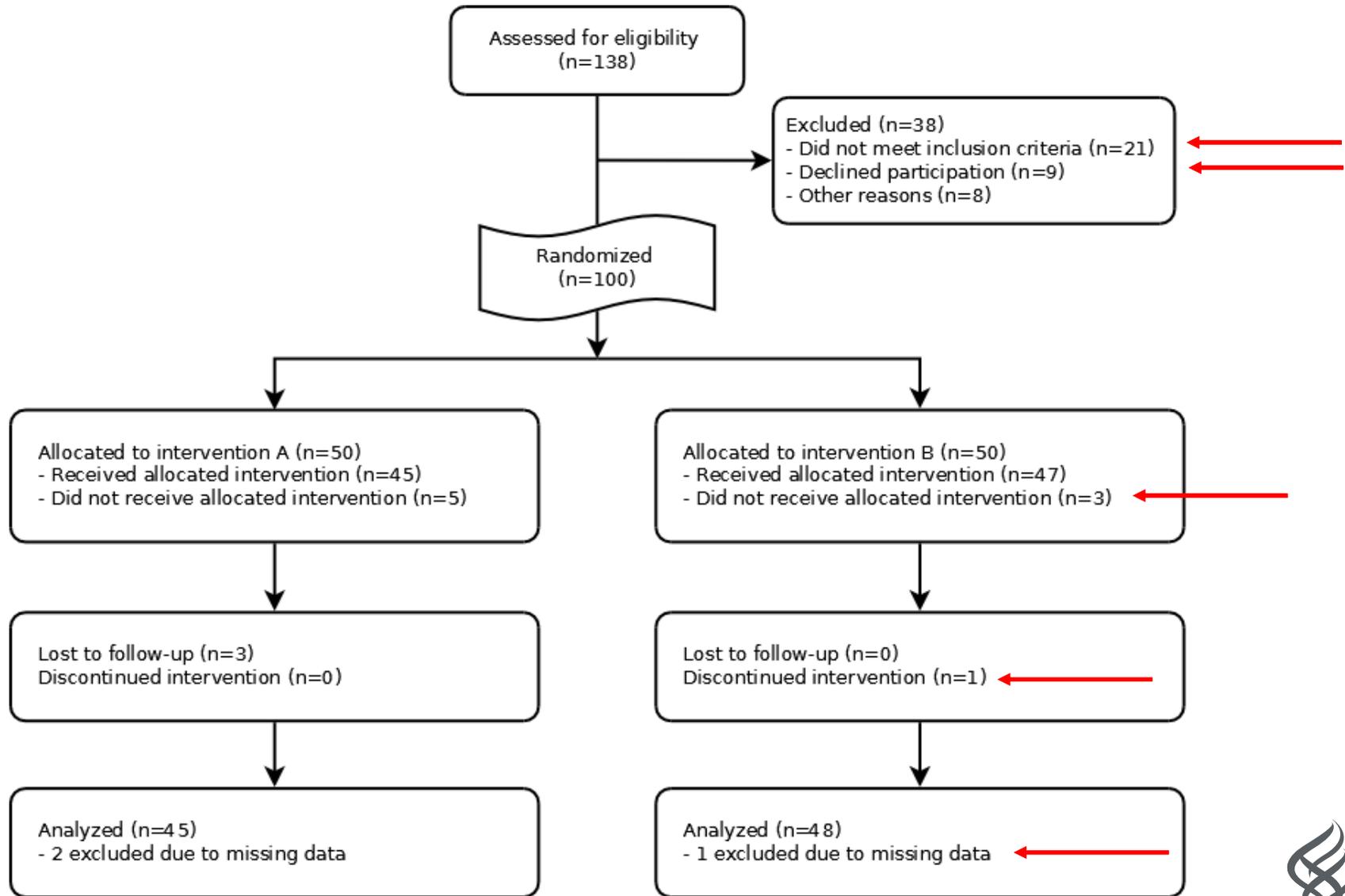
# Agenda

- Where to start
- Developing a Recruitment Plan: Key NIH Considerations for Your Proposal
- What if I Have a Multi-Site Study?
- Questions & Answers
- Summary & Announcements

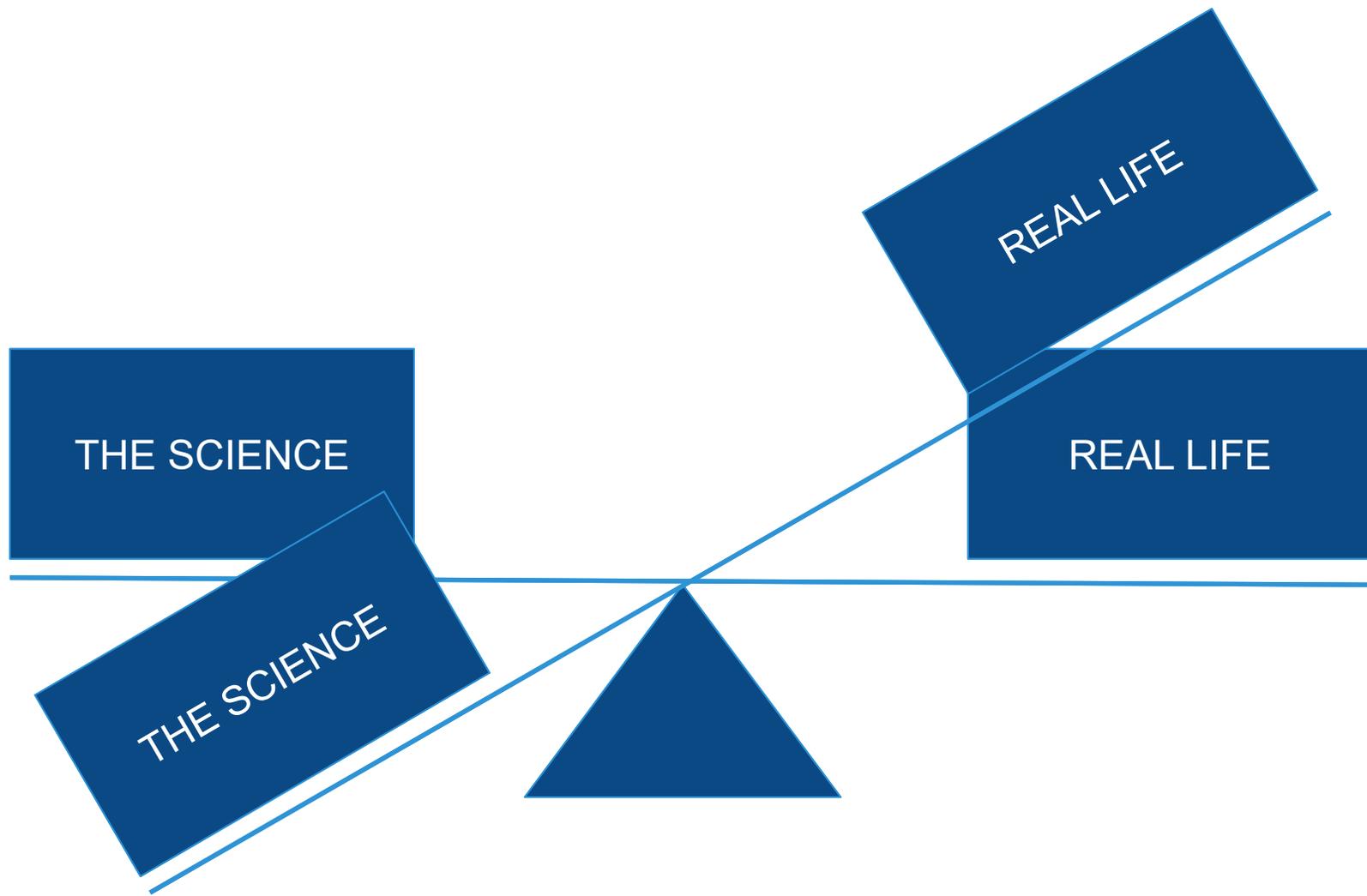
# Do they exist?



# How many do you need?



# How your Inclusion Criteria Impacts Recruitment



# Do you really need it?

- Think about each inclusion/exclusion criteria – is it necessary?
- How can you lower the barriers?
- Timing, duration, acceptability of procedures
- Scope and appetite control! (ex: survey duration)
- This exercise will inform your proposal recruitment plan and other parts (budget, timeline, staff)

# Form E – Recruitment & Retention Plan

- **Who must complete one?**
  - Almost everyone. The attachment is required unless you selected ‘Exemption 4’ and no other exemptions on the ‘[1.3 Exemption Number](#)’ question
- **Wait, did you say attachment?**
  - Yes, many sections in Form E are now required to be submitted as separate PDF attachments
  - See NIH's [Format Attachments](#) page for additional information and formatting requirements
- **What does this entail?**
  - Plan content must include how you will recruit and retain participants in your study

# R&R Plan Content

## What I should include in my R&R plan?

- How many participants?
- Who are they?
- Recruitment location?
- Recruitment methods?
- Duration of recruitment?
- Feasibility?
- Oversampling?
- Retention plans?

# What are some of the methods?

## Recruitment

- Patient population
- Electronic Health Records
- Pre-existing repositories
- Hospital and clinic space
- Community healthcare partners
- Flyers
- Letter and email campaigns
- Websites/online
- Social Media
- Media (TV, radio, newspapers)
- Public transportation
- Online registries
- Disease specific associations
- Advocacy and support groups
- Community outreach and engagement

## Retention

- Birthday cards
- Holiday cards
- Appointment reminders
- Study newsletter
- Payment schedule

# Other Considerations

## **Participant Population**

- Is your staff experienced to work with this population?
- Do you have an adequate amount of staff?
- How much time will you need to recruit this population?
- Is the study site accessible and appropriate for this population?
- What size budget will you need to recruit this population?

## **Recruitment Location(s)**

- Will you need special permission to recruit from this location?

# NIH Inclusion Policies

- **Inclusion of Women & Minorities**
  - Ensure the inclusion of women and minority groups in research
  - That individuals are included in clinical research in a manner that is appropriate to the scientific question under study
- **Inclusion of Children (*Now included in 'Lifespan'*)**
  - Ensure the inclusion of children in research
- **Inclusion Across the Lifespan**
  - Ensure the inclusion of individuals of all ages in research
  - Older age groups cannot be excluded from research unless for ethical or scientific reasons

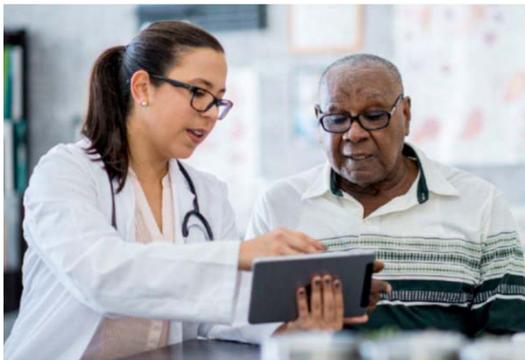
# Inclusion Policy Requirements

- ✓ Described the planned distribution of subjects by sex/gender, race, ethnicity and age
- ✓ Described the rationale for selection of each in terms of the scientific objectives and proposed study design
- ✓ Provided reasoning for exclusion of any group or sub-group
- ✓ Described proposed outreach programs for recruiting each
- ✓ Described expertise of the investigative team for working with individuals



# Requirements Continued...

- ✓ Described appropriateness of the available facilities to accommodate individuals
- ✓ Existing dataset or resource
- ✓ Described inclusion of a sufficient number to contribute to a meaningful analysis
  - ✓ For Phase III, also need to describe plan to test for differences in effect amongst groups
- ✓ Has appropriate attachments
- ✓ Addressed CFR 46, Subpart D in the Protection of Human Subjects attachment (*Children Only*)



# Acceptable Exclusion Based on Age

- Disease does not occur in the excluded age group or topic is not relevant
- Knowledge being sought is already available in the excluded age range
- A separate age-specific study is warranted
- The study will collect or analyze data on pre-enrolled study participants
- There are laws or regulations barring the inclusion of the age group
- The study poses an unacceptable risk to the age group

# Other Form E Considerations

- Facilities & Resources Form
  - What support do you have for Recruitment & Retention?
- Budget
  - Did you include enough for both recruitment and retention methods?
- Overall writing
  - Realistic?
  - Organized?
  - Clear and concise?
  - Did you follow the terms, layout, and other specifications laid out by the NIH?

# Reporting Requirements

Must report to NIH the enrollment by:

- Age
- Race
- Ethnicity
- Gender

View Burden Statement **PHS Inclusion Enrollment Report** OMB Number: 0925-0001 and 0925-0002  
 This report format should NOT be used for collecting data from study participants. Expiration Date: 10/31/2018

\*Study Title (must be unique):

\* Delayed Onset Study?  Yes  No

*If study is not delayed onset, the following selections are required:*

Enrollment Type  Planned  Cumulative (Actual)

Using an Existing Dataset or Resource  Yes  No

Enrollment Location  Domestic  Foreign

Clinical Trial  Yes  No NIH-Defined Phase III Clinical Trial  Yes  No

Comments:

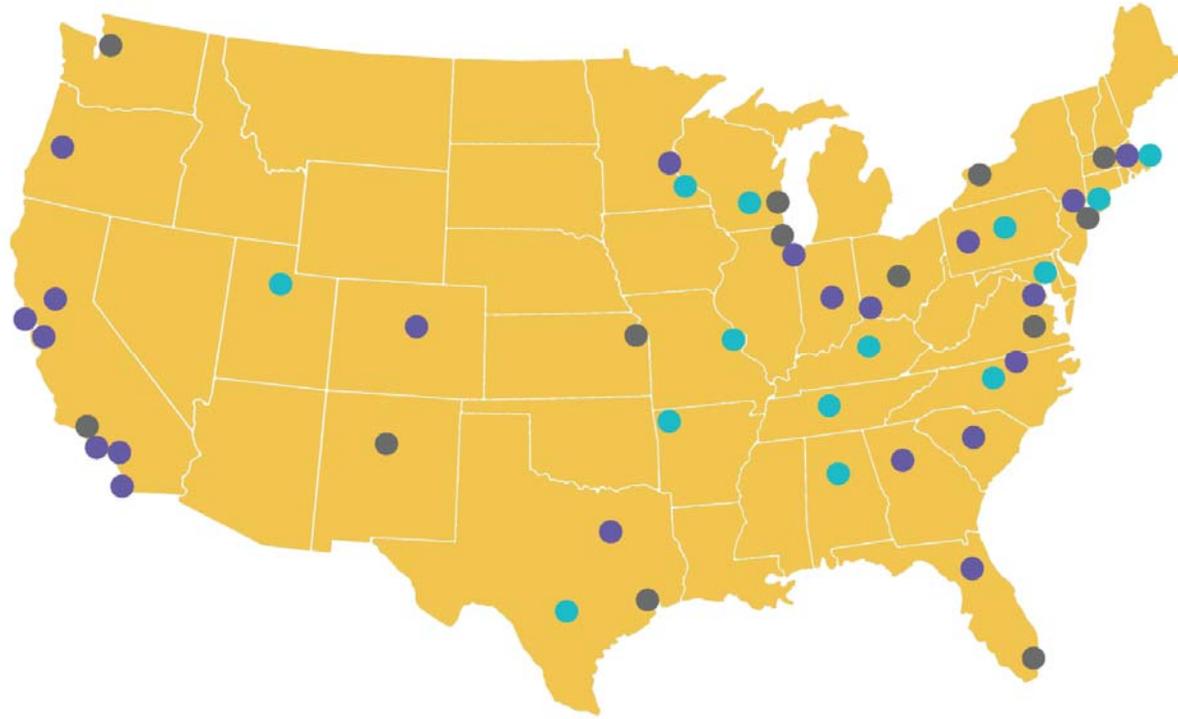
Racial Categories	Ethnic Categories									Total
	Not Hispanic or Latino			Hispanic or Latino			Unknown/Not Reported Ethnicity			
	Female	Male	Unknown/Not Reported	Female	Male	Unknown/Not Reported	Female	Male	Unknown/Not Reported	
American Indian/Alaska Native	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Asian	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Black or African American	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
White	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
More than One Race	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Unknown or Not Reported	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Report 1 of 1

To ensure proper performance, please save frequently.

For more information and the form, please visit [PHS IER Guide](#) or the [PHS IER Form](#)





## What If I Have a Multi-Site Study?

# Examples - continued

- Study: Blood samples for new lab assay
- Inclusion Criteria – healthy participant
- Exclusion Criteria
  - Evidence of infection
  - On medication
  - Medical conditions that may compromise the quality of the cells
  - Disorders that may cause problems for the subject
- **Too Broad!**
  - Scientifically - Could enroll people who are pretty sick
  - Practically – How would you define/document these patients?

# Examples - continued

- Study: The relationship between hormone levels and PMS Symptoms
- Inclusion Criteria
  - Women between 18-30 years old
  - PMS Symptoms every cycle for at least a year
  - Normal pap smear within last year
  - Regular Menstrual cycles >26 and <32 days
- Exclusion Criteria
  - Hysterectomy
  - Hormonal contraceptives in last 3 months
  - History of smoking
  - History of psychiatric disorder
  - History of alcohol/drug abuse
  - Use of medications that could affect mood or sleeping
  - Abnormal screening blood tests (TSH, LFT, HGB)
  - Pregnancy within last year or plan to get pregnant during study
  - Use of medications/alternative treatments for PMS within last 60 days
  - History of insomnia
  - History of migraines
- **Too Narrow!**
  - Scientifically – Will this be generalizable?
  - Practically – The exclusion criteria are so broad many will not be eligible.

# Examples - continued

- Study: Mindfulness to increase nursing among new mothers
- Inclusion Criteria
  - Women between 18-30 years old with first pregnancy
  - Enroll within 3 days of giving birth with a singleton pregnancy
  - Intends to breastfeed
- Exclusion Criteria
  - Clinically documented anxiety or depression
  - Actively practices mindfulness techniques at the time of enrollment.
- Study activities:
  - Must attend mindfulness or sham training (at a medical facility) within 1 week of birth
  - Must practice mindfulness a minimum of 3 times daily
  - Must record all mindfulness sessions
  - Must record time and duration of nursing sessions
  - Required to journal every evening about thoughts and feelings
- **Timing too tight!**
  - Scientifically – Will this be generalizable?
  - Practically – can you find and enroll new mothers in this study?

# Questions & Answers



# OCTRI Resources

- OCTRI Clinical Research Development Team (CRDT)
  - Please visit their [website](#) or email [octri@ohsu.edu](mailto:octri@ohsu.edu)
- Human Investigators Program (HIP)
  - Please visit their [website](#) or email [hip@ohsu.edu](mailto:hip@ohsu.edu)
- Research Forum
  - Please visit their [website](#) to learn more
- For recruitment questions, additional resources, and to request a recruitment consultation
  - Please email [octrirecruitment@ohsu.edu](mailto:octrirecruitment@ohsu.edu)
- Not sure who to direct your question to?
  - Please email the OCTRI Navigator at [octri@ohsu.edu](mailto:octri@ohsu.edu)

# Additional Resources

## **NIH: Comparing Popular Research Grants**

<https://www.niaid.nih.gov/grants-contracts/research-project-grants>

## **General Application Guide for NIH and Other PHS Agencies**

<https://grants.nih.gov/grants/how-to-apply-application-guide/forms-e/general/g.500-phs-human-subjects-and-clinical-trials-information.htm#top>

## **NIH: How to Apply – Application Guide**

<https://grants.nih.gov/grants/how-to-apply-application-guide.html>

## **NIH: How to Apply - Write Your Application**

<https://grants.nih.gov/grants/how-to-apply-application-guide/format-and-write/write-your-application.htm#Your%20Research%20Plan>

## **NIH: Sample Applications**

<https://www.niaid.nih.gov/grants-contracts/sample-applications>

# Thank You



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