**BCM Department of Medicine, Vice Chair Group for Quality Improvement and Innovations**

**Healthcare Innovations Grant Request for Applications (RFA)**

**Overview**

The BCM Department of Medicine Vice Chair Group for Quality Improvement and Innovations is pleased to announce a request for applications for the 2020 Healthcare Innovations Grant. The Healthcare Innovations Grant seeks to further quality improvement and innovation work among Department of Medicine faculty and fellows. The Grant will support Department of Medicine Faculty affiliated with any of Baylor College of Medicine’s clinical pavilions, though preference will be given to proposals aligned with identified clinical priorities (see below). Projects must involve innovative development of novel interventions, quality improvement algorithms or software, redesign of an aspect of care delivery, or rigorous evaluation of existing redesign projects. Projects are expected to identify outcomes of interest to payers (e.g., insurance companies, Medicare, Medicaid, etc.) and report results with payers in mind. Demonstration of collaborations with payers as part of the proposal will be viewed positively. Inter-professional and multidisciplinary collaborations are encouraged. Examples of high priority topic areas at the clinical pavilions include:

**Baylor Medicine/Formerly, FGP**

* Addressing retinal eye screening among patients with Diabetes
* Screening for Fall Risk
* Improving Blood Pressure Management
* Screening for Depression and Follow-up Plan
* Improving Pathology Results Communicated to Patient

**Baylor St. Luke’s Medical Center**

* Reducing Catheter-associated Hospital-acquired Infections, e.g. CLABSI/CAUTI
* Reducing 30-day Readmissions to the Medicine Service
* Reducing Sepsis-related Mortality and Length-of-Stay
* Improving the Process for Ensuring Outpatient Follow-up Appointments at the Time of Discharge
* Improving Hospital-wide Hand Hygiene Rates
* Developing a System to Improve Rapid Detection of Early Clinical Deterioration, including Early Sepsis

**Harris Health System**

* Reducing Catheter-associated Hospital-acquired Infections, e.g. CLABSI/CAUTI
* Reducing Rates of C-difficile Infection
* Improving Blood Pressure Management
* Improving Hospital-wide Hand Hygiene Rates
* Improving the Process for Ensuring Outpatient Follow-up Appointments at the Time of Discharge
* Improving Timing for Patient Flow for Admitted and Discharged Patients
* Developing a System of Intensive Outpatient Care Following Hospital Discharge for High-risk Patients
* Cancer Survivorship Care Plans

**Michael E. DeBakey VA Medical Center**

* Reducing Catheter-associated Hospital-acquired Infections, e.g. CLABSI/CAUTI
* Reducing 30-day Readmissions to the Medicine Service
* Improving the Process for Ensuring Outpatient Follow-up Appointments at the Time of Discharge
* Improving Influenza and Pneumococcal Vaccination Rates Amongst Patients
* Improving Hospital-wide Hand Hygiene Rates
* Developing a Rapid-response QI Intervention Team to Provide Point-of-care Teaching on Quality Measures for Providers
* Improving Timing for Patient Flow for Admitted and Discharged Patients
* Developing a System to Improve Rapid Detection of Early Clinical Deterioration, including Early Sepsis
* Developing a System of Intensive Outpatient Care Following Hospital Discharge for High-risk Patients
* Developing a Multidisciplinary Approach to Fall Reduction in Admitted Patients
* Improving Risk-Adjusted Mortality Rate Among Patients with Myocardial Infarction

**Scoring Criteria**

Projects will be scored on:

1. Feasibility of the project
2. Direct impact on one or more clinical priorities
3. Sustainability and/or broader dissemination of the intervention as applicable
4. Size of and justification for the budget
5. Evidence of engagement with payers and/or responsiveness to outcomes of interest to payers
6. Potential for future funding

**Eligibility**

Any BCM Department of Medicine faculty member or fellow is eligible to apply. Applicants still in fellowship training must have an experienced mentor who is committed to the project.

**Funding**

Two projects will be funded. Projects may request a maximum of $20,000 of support. All funds must be used by June 30, 2021. Funds may be used for the following budget items: funding for project coordinator, data analyst or statistician effort, salary support of project director (faculty effort) and consultants, project related supplies and equipment.

Funding of internal BCM employees is highly encouraged. To reduce delays related to hiring, projects are encouraged to use project coordinator, consultant, and data analyst/statistician effort identified by the Vice Chair Group for Quality Improvement and Innovations, or a consultant or other current BCM employees.

**Applications**

A complete application should include a:

* Brief project abstract (300 words)
* 3-page structured narrative abstract
* Detailed budget
* 2-5 page bio-sketch for project director and other significant faculty contributors
* Letter of support from your Section Chief

**Deadlines**

**Applications are due by close of business Wednesday, April 1, 2020**. Email completed abstracts Juni Muhota-Langham at Juni.Muhota-Langham@bcm.edu

Notice of Funding: Monday, June 6, 2020

Project Dates: July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021

**Deliverables**

Interim Report: November 30, 2020

Final Report: May 31, 2021