

## ABSTRACT ID# P14

Title: The Indiana CTSI's Patient Engagement Core

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The Indiana CTSI introduced a new service through its Patient Engagement Core (PEC) in October 2014. The PEC uses interactive methods to partner with stakeholders, drawing on their experiences to explore study issues and envision solutions to anticipated/unanticipated issues facing researchers. PEC's user-centered approach, well-established in design, is well-suited for community engagement. Through a structured series of interactions between PEC staff and the study team, we identify a focused objective, timeline, and deliverables. One or more teams of 8-10 stakeholders who meet the study inclusion criteria are recruited and convened for one or more 2-4 hour session(s) to work collectively to address the objective. The agenda employs design research techniques such as experience mapping, card sorting, collage, and personas to inspire and elicit rich data. The stakeholder interaction is followed by in-depth analysis and often iterative/ongoing stakeholder interaction to develop a report of findings as well as a tangible artifact that addresses the objective. Since its inception, the PEC has assisted over 20 investigators, convened over 30 stakeholder sessions, and been awarded three extramural grants with more than a dozen currently under review. Our primary findings are three-fold: (1) stakeholders can make key contributions at every phase of research through this approach in a timely manner for study teams, (2) design professionals help with the engagement process to solicit salient "user"-centered input and translate this input into tangible "user"-centered artifacts, and (3) the PEC is an effective tool to demonstrate the relevance and importance of community engagement to academics.