

West Wireless Health Institute Strategic Collaboration

In order to drive innovation and advance the emerging field of wireless health, the West Wireless Health Institute is forging relationships with key academic, healthcare and corporate stakeholders – including businesses with significant healthcare divisions, wireless network providers, infrastructure companies, handset makers, and retailers. Together, we have an enormous opportunity to change the way healthcare is delivered in the United States and around the world.

The West Wireless Health Institute is not a grant-making organization. Rather, moving forward, we have identified five areas of collaboration where the Institute, affiliates and sponsors can drive a sea change in healthcare delivery. Each area offers substantial opportunities to advance science in this arena.

I. Clinical Research

The West Wireless Health Institute will be a global hub for clinical research activity to invent, develop and validate the efficacy of wireless health solutions. The Institute will conduct its own clinical research studies, as well as facilitate clinical research studies with strategic sponsors and others. As a non-profit medical research organization, the Institute will take the lead in identifying, applying for and securing government resources (such as NIH funds) for clinical research. The Institute's status as a non-profit entity enables it to access funding that may not otherwise be available for scientific research. Partnering in this way will enable the Institute's sponsors, governmental funding sources and others to support research that will potentially lead to innovative and beneficial products or services. In addition, the Institute's position as a neutral body will confer a high degree of credibility on the outcomes of joint research projects.

II. Standards

Wireless health is an emerging field of medicine, and as such, is breaking new ground. There is an immediate need to formulate a common set of standards for the field, including regulatory and reimbursement criteria. The Institute will work in concert with affiliates, sponsors and other stakeholders to formulate these new criteria, as well as to establish standards for privacy, security and related concerns. In addition to having in-house experts that have successfully navigated agency approval for medical devices and products (FDA, CMS, etc.), the Institute can also serve as a coordinating body for working groups, as well as a host for meetings and summits to drive progress on this front.

III. Early Stage Technologies

The Institute, directly or through its technology transfer function, will be engaged in at least two types of development projects: R&D towards a wireless health solution where all work is Institute originated, and R&D in conjunction with an entrepreneur or early stage company to help incubate and/or accelerate an idea. The Institute will offer a range of opportunities for sponsors to engage with early stage discovery and development activities. The Institute envisions a variety of investment opportunities for the advancement of early stage technologies in wireless health, and sponsors will be in the position of being among the best informed about those opportunities.

IV. Education

The Institute will collaborate with universities and other scientific and medical institutions to fulfill its objective of training the next generation of wireless health leaders. Affiliates and sponsors will be invited to play a contributing role in these efforts. Our aim is to offer world-class training and fellowship opportunities in the field of wireless health for physicians, nurses, allied healthcare professionals, and engineers, among others.

V. Investment Fund

Beyond the opportunities to support the development of early stage technologies, sponsors will have the opportunity to invest in a venture capital fund that will support clinical research and development projects. This fund will enable the Institute, sponsors and others to invest in the development of promising technologies with which the Institute has been involved. Although this opportunity will necessarily await discoveries from the Institute's research efforts, sponsors will be in a position to remain constantly informed about Institute work that can lead to this opportunity through conferences, seminars, newsletters and other communications.