Study of NIH Peer Review Explores Relationship Between Review Criteria Scores and Overall Impact

A new study published online in the American Journal of Evaluation\(^1\) examined the scored review criteria and overall impact scores recorded by assigned reviewers of NIH R01 grant applications and produced results that suggest all scored review criteria, including innovation, are related to the overall impact score. In addition, the study suggests that good scores are necessary on all five scored review criteria in order for an application to get a good overall impact score.


About CSR
CSR organizes the peer review groups that evaluate the majority of grant applications submitted to NIH. These groups include experienced and respected researchers from across the country and abroad. Since 1946, CSR’s mission has been to see that NIH grant applications receive fair, independent, expert, and timely reviews — free from inappropriate influences — so NIH can fund the most promising research. CSR also receives all incoming applications and assigns them to the NIH institutes and centers that fund grants. For more information, go to CSR’s Web site—http://www.csr.nih.gov—or phone 301-435-1111.

About the National Institutes of Health (NIH)
NIH, the nation’s medical research agency, includes 27 Institutes and Centers and is a component of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. NIH is the primary federal agency conducting and supporting basic, clinical, and translational medical research, and is investigating the causes, treatments, and cures for both common and rare diseases. For more information about NIH and its programs, visit www.nih.gov.