

U.S. Department of Health & Human Services



Center for
Scientific Review

ENQUIRE Cluster 17

Epidemiology and Population Sciences

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SRGs Under Review in Cluster 17

- Behavioral Genetics and Epidemiology (BGES)
- Biostatistical Methods and Research Design (BMRD)
- Cancer, Heart, and Sleep Epidemiology Panel A (CHSA)
- Cancer, Heart, and Sleep Epidemiology Panel B (CHSB)
- Clinical Research & Field Studies of Infectious Disease* (CRFS)
- Genetics of Health and Disease (GHD)
- Infectious Diseases, Reproductive Health, Asthma and Pulmonary Conditions* (IRAP)
- Kidney, Nutrition, Obesity, and Diabetes (KNOD)
- Neurological, Aging and Musculoskeletal Epidemiology* (NAME)
(*and overflow SEPs)

External Panel Recommendations (May 2021)

Key issues identified:

- All panels large and growing
- Current scope defined by health outcomes has limitations
 - Odd disease/expertise combinations that lack scientific logic
 - Not aligned with state of the science – overemphasizes outcomes
 - What to do with studies with multiple outcomes, multi-morbidities, or other studies that straddle study sections.
- Names/descriptions uneven, lack attention to key aspects of science, including some cross-cutting issues

General recommendations:

- From 9 to 14 study sections
- Conceptual framework that reflects multi-dimensional focus of field
 - Three domains: health states, “exposures”, and methods
 - Emphasis on study section overlap
- Intentional integration of innovative concepts, methods and critical aspects of epidemiology/population science across all

External Panel Recommendations

	Study Sections Evaluated	Study Sections Recommended*
Health States	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Behavioral Genetics and Epidemiology Cancer Heart and Sleep Epidemiology (A) Cancer Heart and Sleep Epidemiology (B) Clinical Research and Field Studies Kidney, Nutrition, Obesity and Diabetes Infectious, Reproductive, Asthma and Pulmonary Conditions Neurological, Aging, and Musculoskeletal Epidemiology 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cancer and Hematological Disorders Cardiovascular and Respiratory Diseases Dermatology, Injury, Musculoskeletal, and Rheumatologic Disorders Kidney, Endocrine, and Digestive Disorders Neurological, Mental, and Behavioral Health
Exposures		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reproductive, Perinatal, and Pediatric Health Lifecourse and Aging Population-based Research in Infectious Disease
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lifestyle and Health Behaviors Social and Environmental Determinants of Health
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Genes and Molecules for Population Health
Methods	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Genetics of Health and Disease Biostatistical Methods and Research Design 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Simulation and Prediction in Population Health Big Data Analytics and Algorithms in Population Health Study Design and Statistical Approaches in Population Health

*Study sections names are tentative

Internal Panel Recommendations (Sept 2021)

- General approach provides a good structure for study sections
- Support recommendations with minor caveats
 - Population-based Research in Infectious Disease too big; split along scientific lines
 - 3 methods study sections: reduce to 1-2 (more breadth of expertise in each)
 - Dermatology, Injury, Musculoskeletal and Rheumatology and Kidney, Endocrine, and Digestive Diseases may be too small (science fit is reasonable; enough apps?)
- Clarify Genetics and Molecules, Life Course and Aging
- Refine descriptions of all to incorporate language/aspects relevant to science in each and incorporate attention to clinical epi, social determinants of health, methods, and age.
- Review process assessment: No concerns
 - Request to watch closely the potential dispersion of expertise across study sections with feasibility tests/implementation.

CSR Proposed study sections

	Current	External Panel	Post-Internal Panel
Health States	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Behavioral Genetics & Epi Cancer Heart and Sleep Epidemiology (A & B) Clinical Research & Field Studies Kidney, Nutrition, Obesity & Diabetes Infectious, Reproductive, Asthma and Pulmonary Conditions Neurological, Aging, and Musculoskeletal Epidemiology 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cancer and Hematological Disorders Cardiovascular and Respiratory Diseases Dermatology, Injury, Musculoskeletal, and Rheumatologic Disorders Kidney, Endocrine, and Digestive Disorders Neurological, Mental, and Behavioral Health 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cancer and Hematological Disorders Cardiovascular and Respiratory Diseases Dermatology, Injury, Musculoskeletal, and Rheumatologic Disorders Kidney, Endocrine, and Digestive Disorders Neurological, Mental, and Behavioral Health
Exposures		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reproductive, Perinatal, and Pediatric Health Lifecourse and Aging Population-based Research in Infectious Disease 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reproductive, Perinatal, and Pediatric Health Aging, Geriatric, and Life Course Population-based Research in Infectious Disease Infectious Disease Ecology and Diagnostics
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lifestyle and Health Behaviors Social and Environmental Determinants of Health 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lifestyle and Health Behaviors Social and Environmental Determinants of Health
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Genes and Molecules for Population Health 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Population Genetics and Genomics (Discovery)
Methods	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Genetics of Health and Disease Biostatistical Methods and Research Design 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Simulation and Prediction in Population Health Big Data Analytics and Algorithms in Population Health Study Design and Statistical Approaches in Population Health 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Modeling and Statistical Approaches in Population Health (including infections disease modeling) Data Analytics and Algorithms in Population Health

*Study sections names are tentative

Next steps

- CSR Advisory Council approval? Sep 2021
- Refinement of study sections/mock sorts Oct/Nov 2021
- Finalize descriptions and overlaps
- Post new descriptions on CSR website Dec 2021
- First submission dates Feb 2022
- First review meetings June 2022

CSR Advisory Council: Approve?