

Temporomandibular Disorders (TMD)

Conference Language

The agreement encourages NIDCR to maintain a patient-centered approach in the implementation of the TMD-IMPACT Concept and to seek collaborators from other government agencies such as the Department of Veterans' Affairs (VA) and the Department of Defense (DOD), as well as from within NIH itself. The agreement directs NIH to provide an update in the fiscal year 2024 Congressional Justification on efforts to implement the next phase of the initiative, including the recruitment of other NIH ICs as partners, the role of the patient perspective, and NIDCR's use of the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine (NASEM) Report on TMDs and the TMJ Patient-led Roundtable.

Action taken or to be taken

The National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research (NIDCR) is working with other NIH Institutes, Centers, and Offices (ICOs) to establish a national, interdisciplinary patient-centered research Collaborative, called the Temporomandibular Disorders Collaborative for Improving Patient-Centered Translational Research (TMD IMPACT).⁴⁸⁸ Recommendations from the recent National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine (NASEM) consensus study report on TMDs⁴⁸⁹ and the Temporomandibular Joint Disorder (TMJ) Patient-led Round-Table efforts, including consideration of the patient perspective, helped to inform the TMD IMPACT concept. A Multi-Council Working Group⁴⁹⁰ was also convened from January 2020 to August 2021 to consider the recommendations of the NASEM report, from which a general framework for the TMD IMPACT concept was derived. TMD IMPACT will use a cohesive and coordinated, interdisciplinary approach to advance TMD basic and clinical research, research training, and translation to evidence-based treatments and improved clinical care for TMDs.

The TMD IMPACT concept was unanimously approved by the National Advisory Dental and Craniofacial Research Council in January 2022⁴⁹¹ and is currently under development in two stages. The first stage will consist of a planning grant funding opportunity announcement (FOA) and planning grant awards in preparation for the release of the TMD IMPACT Collaborative FOAs in the second stage. The planning grant awards will enable institutions to develop partnerships, infrastructure, and capabilities needed to address the major goals of the subsequent TMD IMPACT Collaborative. The planning grant FOA is anticipated to be released in FY 2023 and the ensuing awards are expected to be funded in FY 2024. The FOAs that will solicit applications for the subsequent TMD IMPACT Collaborative are anticipated to be released approximately 9 to 12 months after the planning grant awards are made.

Advances in TMD research and translation to patient care have not been as rapid as advances for other musculoskeletal disorders, partly due to the variety of underlying causes, complexity, sex and gender differences, and multi-system involvement in TMDs. To address this challenge, NIDCR is collaborating with several NIH ICOs, including the National Center for

⁴⁸⁸ www.nidcr.nih.gov/grants-funding/funding-priorities/future-research-initiatives/tmd-collaborative-improving-patientcentered-translational-research-tmd-impact

⁴⁸⁹ www.nationalacademies.org/our-work/temporomandibular-disorders-tmd-from-research-discoveries-to-clinical-treatment

⁴⁹⁰ www.nidcr.nih.gov/news-events/news/statement-on-tmd-report

⁴⁹¹ www.nidcr.nih.gov/about-us/advisory-committees/advisory-council/january-2022

Complementary and Integrative Health (NCCIH), National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases (NIAMS), National Institute of Biomedical Imaging and Bioengineering (NIBIB), National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke (NINDS), Office of Behavioral and Social Sciences Research (OBSSR), and Office of Research on Women's Health (ORWH), to ensure that the Collaborative will use interdisciplinary approaches and strategies to advance research and translation to patient care. NIDCR anticipates that additional NIH ICOs will participate in the development of the FOAs and implementation of the Collaborative during the course of the planning stage. NIDCR is also in discussions with the United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regarding their participation in the development and implementation of the Collaborative.