

Understanding Research: How and Who

Dr. Sakina Rizvi

Considerations for Effective Research Engagement

- Effective Teamwork
- Collaboration
- Conflict Management
- Intro to qualitative and quantitative research
- Research Ethics
- Knowledge Translation (KT)



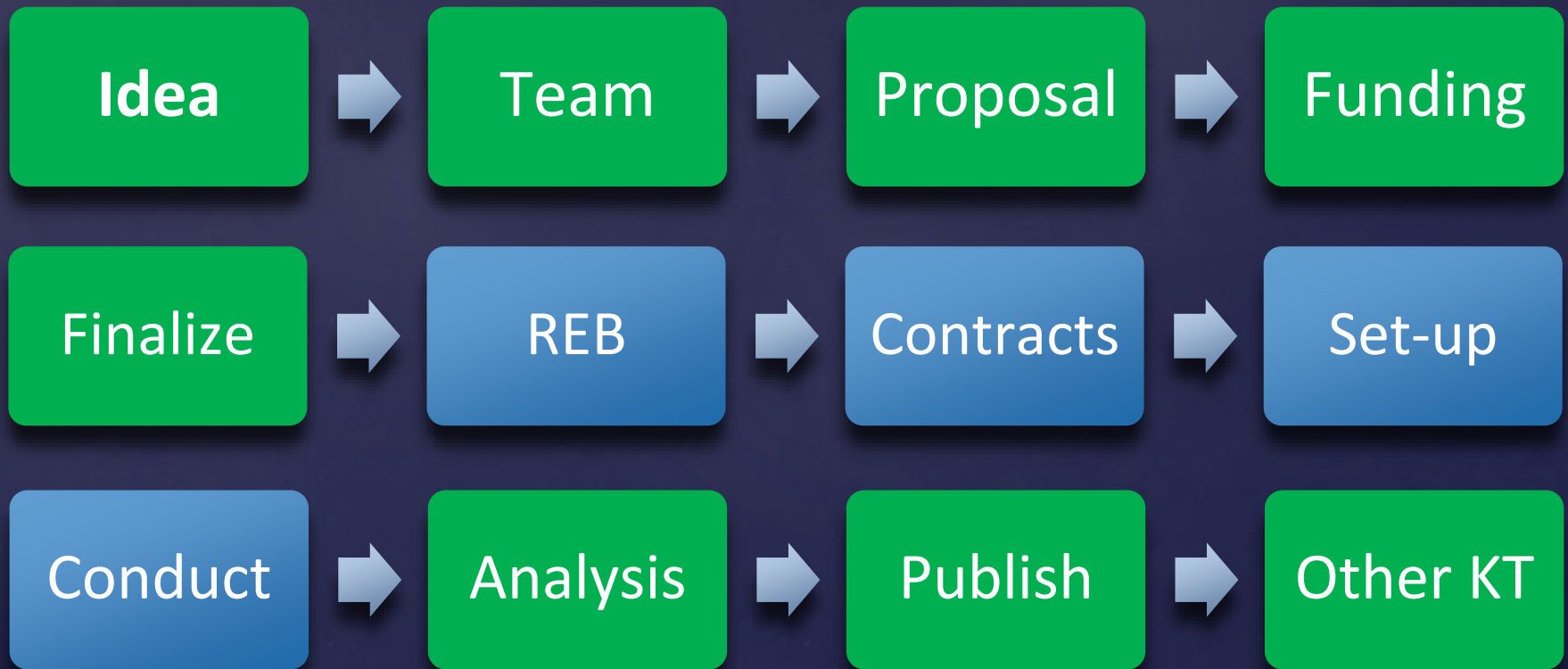
Typical Research Process



Research Process is Slllooww...



Patient & Community Partner Contribution at Different Stages of Research



Coming up with an Idea: Questions to ask Yourself



- What's the problem?
- What do we know so far?
- What don't we know?
- What are possible reasons/ solutions?
- Can idea be measured?
- Why is this important?

Coming up with an Idea: Put it in a Framework

PICO	FINER
Population	Feasibility
Intervention, Issue	Interesting
Comparison	Novel
Outcomes	Ethical
	Relevant

Creating a Team

- Customized to each research study
- Based on research question (and politics)
- What expertise needed?
- What are team gaps?
- Who do you “want” to collaborate with?

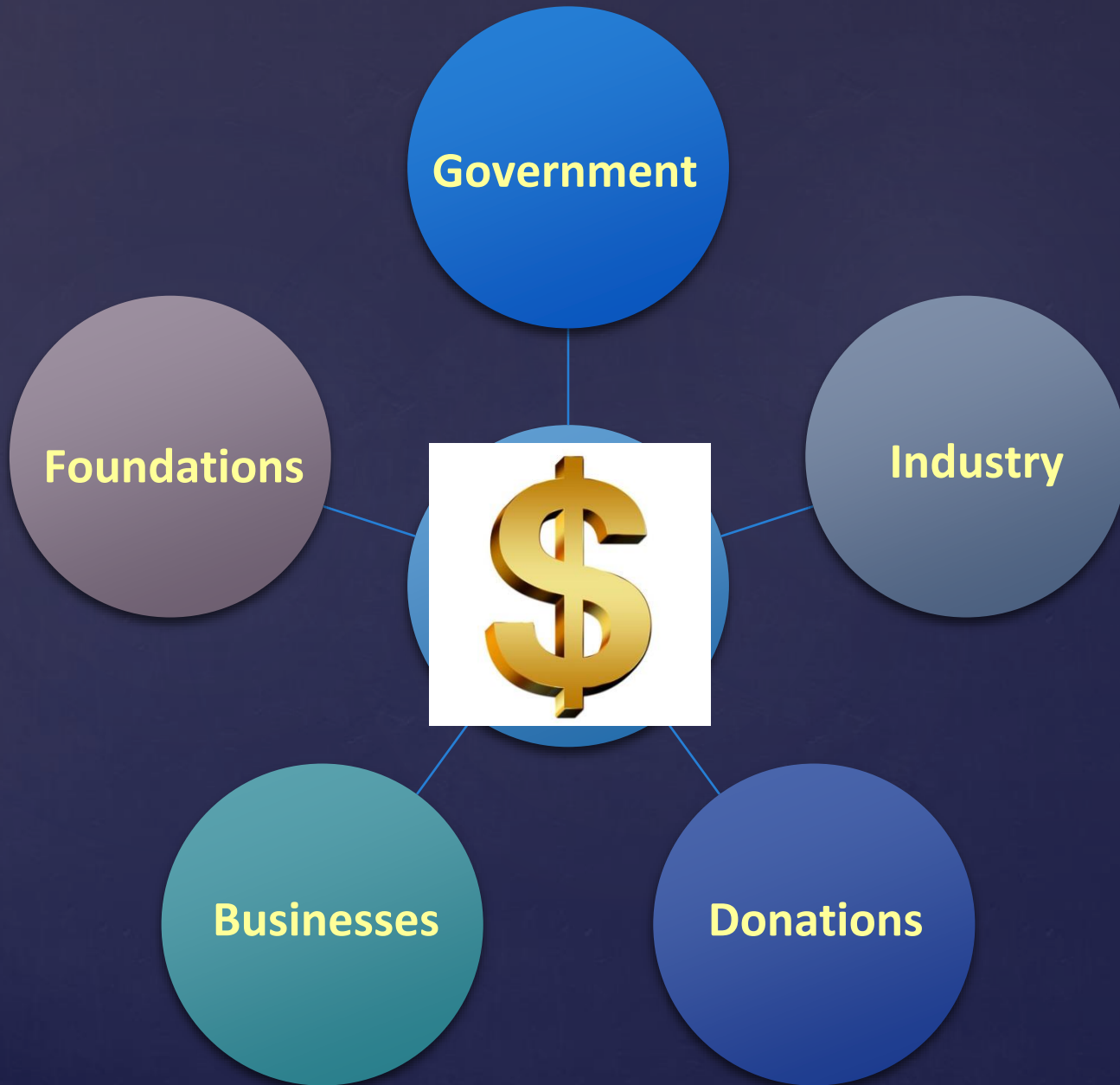
Creating a Team

Role	Responsibility
Principal Investigator (PI)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lead oversight of everything!• Lead in development of idea, funding proposals, conduct, analysis, etc.• Contract negotiations• Supervise research staff
Co-Principal Investigator (Co-PI)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Key contributor to study idea• Oversight of research• Different meaning for grants
Co-Investigator	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Varies• Expert in aspect of research• Develop study idea and methods• Maybe not study conduct/analysis

The Average Research Proposal

Section	Content
Background	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Define the problem, and put it into context of what we do/do not know, and why the problem is important• Set the scene for the research methods (if it's in the methods, it should be in the background)
Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Primary and secondary goals of the study
Hypotheses	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• What you think will happen
Methods	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• “Meat” of proposal• Who is the population, how many people will you include, inclusion criteria, how will you test question, how will you analyze data, sample size calculations
KT Strategy	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• How will you let people know of your results
Impact	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Why is this research important?
Research Environment (sometimes)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Why your team is the best, and well resourced to conduct study

Where Does Funding Come From?



Quick Funding “To Knows”

- Starts with “call” or “Request for Proposal” (RFP)
- Followed by letter of intent (LOI) or full application
- Eligibility to apply varies
- Size of funding (how much you can ask for) varies
- Eligible funding costs varies

After Post-Funding Bliss has Worn Off...

- Finalize what you will do
- Submit to REB
- Submit to contracts
- Set up study
- Go!



Study Conduct and Analysis

- Study coordinator major player
- Analysis can be done by multiple people
- Interpretation of data by study team

Publishing a Paper

1

- Prepare manuscript and send for co-author reviews and edits

2

- Submit final paper to peer reviewed journal

3

- Peer review: 2-3 independent reviewers provide feedback

4

- Rejected (back to drawing board)
- Accept with minor/major revisions (make changes and resubmit)

5

- After revisions, review final article proof content/layout
- Available online shortly after and in print timelines 1-3 months

Publishing a Paper

- Research is publish or perish environment
- PI usually first or last author (final say on authorship)
- ICMJ published guidelines on authorship
- Corresponding author?

KT Strategies

- Typical:
 - Publish, Scientific presentations, conference proceedings
- Not enough anymore: integrative vs. end-stage KT
- Get creative
 - Social media
 - Public forums
 - Video



How to Interact with Researchers to Avoid Tokenism

- ❑ Address barriers to engagement
- ❑ Engage, get involved, initiate
- ❑ Ask questions to clarify
- ❑ Be direct and concise
- ❑ Know your role
- ❑ Know your worth
- ❑ Know your environment
- ❑ Know the politics



Case Study:

A local mental health agency is concerned about levels of anxiety among their participants in a support group for depression. While it is common for anxiety to be present in those with depression, they are not sure whether the support group is making them feel worse. They are wondering whether they should cancel the program because maybe support groups don't work. They have asked you, as a researcher, for your help.

1. What do we know about the problem?
2. What don't we know about the problem?
3. What are some reasons the support group may not be working?
4. What is the research question you would test?

5. Let's put it into a framework

PICO	
Population	
Intervention, Issue	
Comparison	
Outcomes	

FINER	
Feasibility	
Interesting	
Novel	
Ethical	
Relevant	

Creating a Team

1. What expertise is necessary to carry out this project?
2. With that in mind, who would you ask to be a co-investigator (not specific person, but profession or something like that)?
3. A fellow co-investigator is not participating in the project development process? How would you handle this?
4. There is strong disagreement on which way to go with the proposal within the research team. How would you handle this as the PI of the study?

Defining the Research Proposal

Section	Content
Background	
Objectives	
Hypotheses	
Methods	
KT Strategy	
Impact	
Research Environment	

Reflective Exercise

Given everything we have discussed, what do you see your role in patient- and community-partnered projects to be?

What are your strengths that you could bring to the table for research or education/advocacy?

Would you like to lead a project as a PI or be a Co-I?

Realistically, what amount of time could you devote to a project?

What are the barriers that would prevent you from participating in patient- and community-partnered projects?

What would encourage you to participate in patient- and community-partnered projects?