

National Exercise Clinical Trials Network (NExTNet)

NExTNet was established in 2012 to lead and facilitate rigorous, multi-site exercise clinical trials that will fill major knowledge gaps in exercise biology and medicine (e.g., dose-response relationships; exercise-drug/device interactions; response heterogeneity, exercise genomics, and personalized medicine; disease and population specificity; and bio-behavioral mechanisms of adherence and behavioral change). The network brings together the physical and intellectual resources of an interdisciplinary, collaborative team of the nation's

NExTNet Member Institutions (n=59)

Arizona State University	University of California - Irvine
Ball State University	University of California - Los Angeles
Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center	University of California - San Francisco
Boston University	University of Chicago
Case Western Reserve University	University of Colorado - Denver
Children's National Medical Center	University of Florida
Colorado State University	University of Illinois - Chicago
Columbia University	University of Iowa
Cornell Medical College	University of Kansas Medical Center
Cornell University	University of Kentucky
Duke University	University of Maryland
East Carolina University	University of Michigan
Emory University	University of Minnesota
Harvard Medical School	University of Missouri
Johns Hopkins University	University of New Mexico
Mayo Clinic - Rochester	University of North Carolina
Medical University of S Carolina	University of Pennsylvania
New York University Med Center	University of Pittsburgh
Northwestern University	University of Rochester
Oregon Health & Science University	University of Southern California
Pennington Biomedical Research Ctr	University of Texas
Purdue University	University of Texas Medical Branch
Texas A&M University	University of Utah
The Ohio State University	University of Virginia
The Rockefeller University	University of Washington
Tufts University	University of Wisconsin
University of Alabama at Birmingham	Vanderbilt University
Coordinating Center	Virginia Commonwealth University
University of Arkansas for Medical Sci	Wake Forest University
University of California - Davis	Washington University (St. Louis)

leading experts in the field. Currently 59 institutions from coast to coast are members, and the UAB Center for Exercise Medicine at the University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB) serves as the Coordinating Center. In addition to establishing procedures for protocol standardization across sites, the network is supported by REDCap databases for data entry/auditing, searchable site-specific data, and resource sharing. The databases contain detailed contact information, expertise, capabilities, and equipment inventories for testing cardiopulmonary function, neuromuscular function, body composition, and metabolites; resistance training; endurance or interval training; and descriptions of key ancillary services (core laboratories, clinical research units, bioinformatics and statistical design/analysis services, etc). The resource sharing database compiles exercise trials data and resources available for sharing, including biological specimens.

NExTNet strategic planning teleconferences occur monthly, and a few face-to-face meetings occur each year. The American College of Sports Medicine (ACSM) sponsors the monthly teleconferences, and co-sponsors NExTNet grant writing retreats. Several NExTNet investigators chaired and helped lead working groups for the NIH in support of the trans-NIH initiative to expand research opportunities in exercise biology and physical activity via the Common Fund.

